



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT PROGRAM

February 18, 2015

In reply refer to: FOIA #BPA-2015-00597-F

Cheryl Brantley
A Better Way for BPA
PO Box 704
Amboy, WA 98601

Ms. Brantley:

We have received your request for records under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). Thank you for your interest in the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Your request was officially received in this office after clarification on February 17, 2015, and has been assigned control number BPA-2015-00597-F. Please use this number in any correspondence with the agency about your request.

You requested:

Pursuant to the FOIA, please produce for inspection (or produce digital images of) all documents subsequent to the publication of the DEIS for the I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project that relate to:

1. Your agency's contracts with consultants for work on reviewing comments submitted on the DEIS.
2. Your agency's contracts with consultants for work on preparing the FEIS.
3. Your agency's timeframe and/or plans with regard to preparation of the FEIS.
4. Any issues that were not addressed in the DEIS that you now expect to include in the FEIS.
5. All documents since 12/23/2012, that relate to any of the alternative routes in Oregon.
6. All studies, documents, notes, and emails related to double circuiting the proposed new transmission lines using existing or new transmission towers along the West Alternative, including, but not limited to, the use of existing access roads and tower locations on wetlands.

In an email dated February 16, 2015, your attorney David Bricklin revised the request for contracts (items 1 and 2 above) to exclude pricing information.

We have reviewed your letter and determined that it addresses all of the criteria of a proper request under the FOIA and the Department of Energy's FOIA regulations at Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1004. Your request for a waiver of fees is granted.

Complex requests:

FOIA requires that we act on requests "promptly" and that we make a determination on your request and respond within 20 working days (5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)). The Bonneville Power Administration

has instituted multi-track processing, as permitted by FOIA (5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(D)(i)). Simple requests and complex requests are placed in two different queues, and each queue is processed on its own first-in, first-out basis. Requests are placed in the complex queue if they will require significant agency time or resources to process.

Unusual/exceptional circumstances:

Under FOIA, an agency may extend the normal 20-day deadline by an additional ten business days if “unusual circumstances” exist (5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(i)). Unusual circumstances include the need to search records located in field facilities, requests for a voluminous amount of records, and requests that require consultation with other entities, agencies, or agency components including Department of Energy headquarters. If an agency cannot fulfill the request within the 30 working days provided by the extended deadline, agencies must (a) notify the requester and (b) work with the requester to modify or limit the scope of the request or arrange an alternative time frame for processing (5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(ii)).

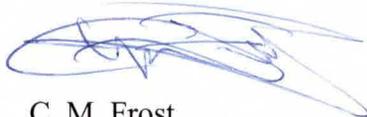
In this case you are requesting contracts that BPA has with outside entities. Under the FOIA BPA must perform an Exemption 4 review. An Exemption 4 review requires consultation with the contracted entity to allow them the opportunity to withhold information where release would cause them competitive harm.

Therefore, we currently estimate the completion of your request by September 30, 2015.

We will provide partial releases of information once the appropriate reviews are completed.

I appreciate the opportunity to assist you. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Kim Winn, FOIA Public Liaison, at 503-230-5273.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. M. Frost', with a stylized flourish at the end.

C. M. Frost
Freedom of Information Act Officer



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

September 28, 2015

In reply refer to: FOIA #BPA-2015-00597-F

Cheryl Brantley
A Better Way for BPA
PO Box 704
Amboy, WA 98601

Dear Ms. Brantley:

This communication regards your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received at Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) on February 17, 2015, which BPA acknowledged on February 18, 2015.

You requested:

“...all documents subsequent to the publication of the DEIS for the I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project that relate to:

1. Your agency’s contracts with consultants for work on reviewing comments submitted on the DEIS.
2. Your agency’s contracts with consultants for work on preparing the FEIS.
3. Your agency’s timeframe and/or plans with regard to preparation of the FEIS.
4. Any issues that were not addressed in the DEIS that you now expect to include in the FEIS.
5. All documents since 12/23/2012, that relate to any of the alternative routes in Oregon.
6. All studies, documents, notes, and emails related to double circuiting the proposed new transmission lines using existing or new transmission towers along the West Alternative, including, but not limited to, the use of existing access roads and tower locations on wetlands.

In an email dated February 16, 2015, your attorney, David Bricklin, revised the request for contracts (items 1 and 2 above) to exclude pricing information.

The records responsive to the above request have been gathered. In accord with the FOIA, BPA has submitted these responsive records to the relevant third party entities for any objections to release under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4) (which protects business trade secrets or other confidential commercial or financial information from public release). The 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4) exemption analysis process is ongoing. As such, we are extending the target date for BPA’s response to your request to March 31, 2016.

If you have questions about this communication, please contact James King (CorSource Technology Group, Inc.), assigned to BPA, at 503-230-7621.

Sincerely,



C. M. Frost
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Officer