



## Department of Energy

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

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT PROGRAM

July 15, 2015

In reply refer to: FOIA #BPA-2015-01602-F

Rose Anderson  
McCullough Research  
6123 SE Reed College Place  
Portland, OR 97202

Dear Ms. Anderson:

We have received your request for records under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552)(FOIA) to the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Your request was received in this office on July 9, 2015, and has been assigned control number BPA-2015-01602-F. Please use this number in any correspondence with the agency about your request.

### **You requested:**

“...any work papers associated with the informal study of discount theory and practice. Specifically, we would like to know the rates used by participating utilities.”

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.

There are no fees associated with this request.

### **Complex requests:**

The 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)). However, the Bonneville Power Administration has instituted multi-track processing, as permitted by FOIA (5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(D)(i)). In accord with this process, 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 require significant agency time or resources to process. We have determined that a response to your request will likely require a review for statutory exemptions and consultations with third parties. We have therefore designated your request as complex.

**Unusual/exceptional circumstances:**

Under the FOIA, an agency may extend the response time 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 agencies or agency components. We have determined that a response to your request will likely require consultation with third parties or agency components. We have therefore determined that your request involves unusual circumstances.

In light of the above conditions and determinations, we currently estimate the completion of your request by October 15, 2015.

We appreciate the opportunity to assist you. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact James King, (CorSource Technology Group, Inc.) assigned to Bonneville Power Administration, at 503-230-7621.

Sincerely,



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