



Department of Energy

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

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT/PRIVACY PROGRAM

September 14, 2016

In reply refer to: BPA-2016-00637-F

John C. Meyer
Senior Researcher
Consumers' Research
1801 F Street NW, Third Floor
Washington, DC 20006
jmeyer@consumersresearch.org

Dear Mr. Meyer:

This communication concerns your request for records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) submitted to the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) on March 14, 2016, and acknowledged on March 29, 2016.

Request

- "1) All documentation of any actions Bonneville Power Administration has taken to protect its generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines against the effects of an Electromagnetic Pulse event (EMP), whether against natural EMP or against man-made EMP, including nuclear and other artificially generated EMP events, and the costs thereof.
- 2) All documentation of any actions Bonneville Power Administration currently has underway to protect its generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines against the effects of EMP, whether against natural EMP or against man-made EMP, including nuclear and other artificially generated EMP events, and the likely costs thereof.
- 3) All documentation of any actions Bonneville Power Administration is currently considering to protect its generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines against the effects of EMP, whether against natural EMP or against man-made EMP, including nuclear and other artificially generated EMP events, and any information on the projected costs of these actions.
- 4) Any studies, analyses or other reviews in your records of the likely effects of EMP, whether natural or man-made, on Bonneville Power Administration's generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines.

5) Any records of any actual damage to the generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines ... from any natural EMP event that has occurred in the past."

Extension

BPA FOIA Counsel are now reviewing the responsive records collected from the appropriate subject matter staff in the following offices:

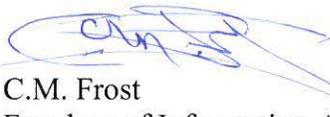
Transmission Service Plan
Operations Support
Technology Innovation
Trans Infrastructure Development Plan
Transmission Project Mgmt.
Operations Control

Substation Engineering
System Operations
National Relations
Org. Delivery & Performance
General Counsel

That agency effort remains ongoing. Because of these conditions, we are extending the target date for a response to your FOIA request to October 28, 2016.

If you have questions you may contact James King (CorSource Technology Group, Inc.) at 503-230-7621.

Sincerely,



C.M. Frost
Freedom of Information Act Officer



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John C. Meyer
Senior Researcher
Consumers' Research
1801 F St NW, Third Floor
Washington, DC 20006
jmeyer@consumersresearch.org

Dear Mr. Meyer:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has received your request for records under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). Your request was received in this office on March 14, 2016, and has been assigned tracking number BPA-2016-00637-F. Please use this number in any correspondence with the agency regarding your request.

Request

- "1) All documentation of any actions Bonneville Power Administration has taken to protect its generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines against the effects of an Electromagnetic Pulse event (EMP), whether against natural EMP or against man-made EMP, including nuclear and other artificially generated EMP events, and the costs thereof.
- 2) All documentation of any actions Bonneville Power Administration currently has underway to protect its generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines against the effects of EMP, whether against natural EMP or against man-made EMP, including nuclear and other artificially generated EMP events, and the likely costs thereof.
- 3) All documentation of any actions Bonneville Power Administration is currently considering to protect its generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines against the effects of EMP, whether against natural EMP or against man-made EMP, including nuclear and other artificially generated EMP events, and any information on the projected costs of these actions.
- 4) Any studies, analyses or other reviews in your records of the likely effects of EMP, whether natural or man-made, on Bonneville Power Administration's generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines.

5) Any records of any actual damage to the generating capacity, transformers, substations and/or power lines ... from any natural EMP event that has occurred in the past."

Acknowledgement

We have reviewed your request and have determined that it fulfills all of the criteria of a proper request under the FOIA and the Department of Energy's (DOE) FOIA regulations at Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1004.

Fee

There may be FOIA fees for processing the above request. BPA will contact you for your agreement to pay fees should our records volume and search efforts trigger a fee assessment.

Complex Requests

The FOIA requires that BPA 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, BPA has instituted multi-track processing, as permitted by the 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 may require a review for statutory exemptions and consultations with possible 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 agency components. We have determined that a response to your request may possibly require consultation with other 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 or before June 10, 2016.

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

Sincerely,



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