



Department of Energy

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

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT/PRIVACY PROGRAM

October 25, 2016

In reply refer to: FOIA #BPA-2017-00069-F

Adrienne Thompson
Troutman Sanders LLP
100 SW Main Street
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Ms. Thompson:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has received your request for agency records made under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). Your records request was received in this office on October 12, 2016 and has been assigned a Department of Energy (DOE) tracking number of BPA-2017-00069-F. Please use this number in any correspondence with the agency regarding your request.

Request

"...all emails, notes, formal and informal memoranda, meeting agendas, minutes, and other communication regarding Bonneville's discovery of and decision to collect, certain allegedly under-charged amounts related to the short-distance discount (SDD) from Grant County PUD during 2011. Such materials will include, but are not limited to: (1) emails and other communications exchanged between Grant PUD and BPA staff regarding these two monthly bills; (2) the Agency Decision Framework that may pertain to this matter; and/or (3) other documents addressing how BPA resolved this matter and its reasons for doing so."

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 DOE FOIA regulations at Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1004.

FOIA Fee

You have agreed to pay up to \$ 200.00 in FOIA fees.

Complex Requests

The FOIA requires that BPA act on requests “promptly” and that the agency 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 and 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 and involve a voluminous amount of records and 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 February 17, 2017.

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