Morris, Alexander

From: FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 12:34 PM
To: FOIA-Central
Subject: DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

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Record Description:

Riverkeeper requests copies of any and all documents and records relating to the participation and opinions of the nuclear power plant industry, including but not limited to Entergy Corporation and its representatives, at the NRC/DOE Workshop on U.S. Nuclear Power Plant Life Extension Research and Development: Life Beyond 60, held February 19-21, 2008, or at any other similar meetings or workshops concerning the functional life of nuclear reactors. This includes, but is not limited to, copies of any submissions, presentations, reports, statements, notes, correspondence, and the like, attributable to representatives of the nuclear power plant industry, prepared for, made at/during, or otherwise in relation to such workshops and/or meetings.

Preferred Form or Format: Electronic

Type of Requester (if provided):

Affiliated with an educational or noncommercial scientific institution, and this request is made for scholarly or scientific purpose and not for commercial use.

Fees and Fee Waivers:

I request a waiver or reduction of fees.

Waiver or Reduction of Fees Factors (if provided):

1. The subject of the request: Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government."

The requested records will reveal how the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) receive industry opinions regarding the life extension of nuclear power plants beyond 60 years and what steps these agencies are taking to educate themselves about this issue.

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2. The informative value of the information to be disclosed: Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities.

The requested records will contribute to Riverkeeper's understanding of the government processes for evaluating the lifespan of nuclear facilities and what information the Department of Energy is receiving regarding this issue.

3. The contribution to an understanding by the general public of the subject likely to result from disclosure, taking into account your ability and intent to disseminate the information to the public in a form that can further understanding of the subject matter.

This disclosure will contribute to public understanding regarding how the government is dealing with issues of nuclear power plant functional life. As a nonprofit organization that regularly communicates with the public on environmental, public, and energy issues, Riverkeeper is uniquely situated to accomplish this goal. Riverkeeper is a leader in raising concerns about the continued operation of Indian Point nuclear facilities. Throughout the past 40 years Riverkeeper has run numerous campaigns aimed at educating the public about the environmental hazards related to Indian Point. We are concerned about the license renewal of the Indian Point facilities and the requested information, which we can disseminate to the public through postings on our website, www.riverkeeper.org, press releases and conferences, news articles, op-ed pieces, and television news interviews, will help contribute to public understanding about the functional life of Indian Point.

4. The significance of the contribution to public understanding: Whether the disclosure is likely to contribute "significantly" to public understanding of government operations or activities.

The requested information will contribute significantly to public understanding of what information the DOE is considering in developing policies relating to nuclear plant lifespan. The requested records will show industry opinions on the matter, which may affect the DOE's decisions regarding how long nuclear facilities are permitted to operate.

5. The existence and magnitude of a commercial interest: Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure, and, if so

Riverkeeper has no commercial interest in the disclosure.

6. The primary interest in disclosure: Whether the magnitude of the identified commercial interest of the requester is sufficiently large, in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester."

Riverkeeper's interest in the requested information is solely to help it better serve the public. Riverkeeper retains no commercial interest whatsoever.

Expedited Processing:

Specific Justification for Expedited Processing: