

POWPA REQUEST
Case No.
Date Rec'd
Specialist
Related Case
2008-0008A

2-/6-08
Brown
Related Case
2008-0031

Washington, DC (202) 857 - DEPO

Baltimore, MD (410) 685 - DEPO June 19, 2008

Via Certified Mail

Mr. Timothy Hagan Director, Office of Administration FOIA/Privacy Act Officer U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Greenbelt, MD (301) 345 – DEPO

FOIA/PA 2008-0231 Appeal

Dear Mr. Hagan:

Re:

Please allow this letter to serve as an appeal in the above-referenced matter. For the reasons set forth below, Capital Reporting Company ("Capital") believes that the position of Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Officer Russell A. Nichols is erroneous.

By letter dated April 16, 2008, Capital sought information from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the "Agency") pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. (Exhibit #1.) Specifically, Capital requested a copy of the most recent RFP for RFQ No. ASB 04-232. By letter dated June 5, 2008, that request was denied by Officer Nichols, citing 5 U.S.C. § 522(b)(3), commonly referred to as Exemption 3. In particular, Mr. Nichols noted that 41 U.S.C. 253b (m)(1) prohibited the Agency from disclosing the information Capital requested.

In this instance, the Agency asserts that the information sought is a "proposal in the possession or control of the executive agency [and] may not be made available to any person under section 522 of Title 5." 41 U.S.C. 253b (m)(1). However, the Agency's determination fails to consider 41 U.S.C. 253b (m)(2) which provides that the above referenced restriction does not apply to "any proposal that is set forth or incorporated by reference in a contract entered into between the agency and the contractor that submitted the proposal." 41 U.S.C. 253b (m)(2). Capital's request falls squarely within this statutory provision and, as such, the requested information should be disclosed.

Moreover, it has long been settled in the District of Columbia that once an agency decides to withhold information, the Freedom of Information Act requires a reasonable and specific justification for its withholding. Mead Data Central, Inc. v. Department of the Air Force, 566 F.2d 242 (D.C. Cir. 1977). Here, the Agency, through Officer Nichols, merely stated that the disclosure of the requested information was prohibited by 41 U.S.C. 253b (m)(1) without any further explanation. This does not provide a sufficient justification for the withholding.

Alexandria, VA (703) 684 - DEPO

Tysons Corner, VA (703) 684 - DEPO

Philadelphia, PA (215) 236 – DEPO

New York, NY (212) 337 - DEPO

San Francisco, CA (415) 499 – DEPO

San Rafael, CA (415) 499 – DEPO

Oakland, CA (415) 499 - DEPO

Toll Free (866) 448 – DEPO



For the reasons set forth above, Capital respectfully requests that its appeal be granted and a copy of the most recent RFP for RFQ No. ASB 04-232 be released to Capital.

Very truly yours,

Wayne R. Cohen General Counsel

WRC/jd Enclosure

Exhibit 1



Case No.: 2008-02.
Case No.: 2008-02.
Cate Rec'd: 5-2-08.
Specialist: Auppard

Washington, DC (202) 857 - DEPO

April 16, 2008

Baltimore, MD (410) 685 - DEPO Via Certified & 1st Class Mail
Reginald Sheppard
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Greenbelt, MD (301) 345 - DEPO

Re: Freedom of Information Act

FOIA/PA 2008-0187 RFQ ASB 04-232

Alexandria, VA (703) 684 - DEPO Dear Mr. Sheppard,

James Cavanaugh has instructed us to contact you in this matter, if you are not the correct person, please contact me.

Tysons Corner, VA (703) 684 - DEPO

By this letter I am hereby requesting under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) a copy of the latest RFP for the above referenced RFQ number. If there are any costs associated with the production of this, please contact me at 202-857-3376 or by email at kwilliams@capitalreportingcompany.com and I will arrange for payment.

Philadelphia, PA (215) 236 ~ DEPO

Again, I appreciate your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

New York, NY (212) 337 - DEPO

San Francisco, CA (415) 499 - DEPO

Kristen Williams
Assistant Director of
Marketing & Operations

Best Wishes,

San Rafael, CA (415) 499 - DEPO

KW/ag

Oakland, CA (415) 499 - DEPO