

FOIA Resource

From: Michael Blanding [michael@michaelblanding.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 2:39 PM
To: FOIA Resource
Subject: FOIA Request: Correspondence with named members of Congress

Michael Blanding
Safra Center for Ethics
Harvard University
c/o 28 Brook St.
Brookline, MA 02445
617-791-0504

FOIA/PA REQUEST
Case No.: 2012-0114
Date Rec'd: 1-19-12
Specialist: McClellan
Related Case: _____

Jan 18, 2012

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
FOIA/Privacy Officer
Mailstop: T-5 F09
Washington, DC 20555-0001

FOIA REQUEST **Expedited processing requested**

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of all correspondence, including electronic correspondence, from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2011, between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the following members of Congress: Senators Lisa Murkowski, Lindsey Graham, Mary Landrieu, Jeff Bingaman, Joseph Lieberman, John McCain, Mitch McConnell, Richard Burr, Tim Johnson, James Inhofe, Bob Corker, Ben Nelson, Michael Crapo, Mark Pryor, Harry Reid, Charles Grassley, Max Baucus, Patty Murray, Jim Webb, and John Barrasso; Representatives James Clyburn, Steny Hoyer, Peter Visclosky, Joe Barton, Jason Altmire, Edward Pastor, Frederick Upton, David Camp, Michael Simpson, John Shimkus, John Boehner, Steve Israel, Kevin McCarthy, Edolphus Towns, Christopher Murphy, Rodney Felinghuysen, Bobby Rush, Greg Walden, Marin Heinrich, and Sue Myrick..

I would like to receive the information in the following format: paper and electronic.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through this request, I am gathering information on the nuclear power industry that is of current interest to the public because of concerns over the safety and reliability of nuclear power. This information is being sought on behalf of the Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University for dissemination to the general public. I am a freelance magazine writer with 20 years of experience in investigative reporting. The information from this request will be used for an article for Businessweek magazine, as well as article for other news publications.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.

Please provide expedited processing of this request which concerns a matter of urgency. As a journalist, I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. The public has an urgent need for information about the nuclear power industry because of concerns over the safety and reliability of nuclear power in the wake of the Fukushima nuclear accident last year. I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Michael Blanding

--

Michael Blanding
Fellow, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University
Senior Fellow, Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism, Brandeis University
617-791-0504
www.michaelblanding.com
@michaelblanding