

FOIA/PA REQUEST

Case No.: 2014-0304
Date Rec'd: 6/25/14
Specialist: Natalie Brown
Related Case: 2014-0027

FOIA Resource

From: David Lochbaum <nobody@www.nrc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 2:54 PM
To: FOIA Resource
Subject: WWW Form Submission

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by David Lochbaum () on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 at 14:53:32 through the IP (b) (6) using the form at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/foia-submittal-form.html> and resulted in this email to foia.resource@nrc.gov

Company/Affiliation: Union of Concerned Scientists

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Desc: All email messages dated between January 1, 2010, and September 14, 2012, concerning Generic Issue 204 and/or dam failures that were sent by NRC staffer Richard H. Perkins or delivered to Mr. Perkins (either in the TO, CC, or BC lists).

FeeCategory: Educational

MediaType:

MediaType_Other_Description:

Expedite_ImminentThreatText:

Expedite_UrgencyToInformText:

Waiver_Purpose: UCS has two interests in the requested documents. First, UCS has been monitoring GI-204 and the flooding hazard at US reactors from dam failures. Second, UCS has been examining the NRC's policies and practices for withholding documents from the public and for redacting information from documents released via FOIA. The requested documents will likely expand our understanding of both areas.

Waiver_ExtentToExtractAnalyze: UCS has made formal presentations at American Nuclear Society conferences and at NRC Commission briefings on the post-Fukushima flooding hazard evaluations and associated implementation issues. The requested documents will likely contribute to our understanding of flooding hazards and factor into future commentaries provided to the NRC, the Congress, and others. In addition, we are planning a report for FY15 on the NRC's policies and practices for withholding information from the public. The requested documents will likely figure prominently in that report.

Waiver_SpecificActivityQuals: As described in the response to question 2, UCS will review the requested documents and factor insights into commentaries on flooding hazards for the NRC, the Congress, and the public. In addition, UCS will review the requested records and incorporate insights into a report we plan to issue in FY15 on the NRC's document withholding policies and practices.

Waiver_ImpactPublicUnderstanding: The public is keenly aware of the hazard posed by flooding after Fukushima. UCS expects to extract insights from the requested documents and provide commentary - in plainer English than the NRC or the nuclear industry - about the hazard and associated solutions. In addition, UCS plans a report on the NRC's document withholding policies and practices. The public is likely not aware that the NRC withheld information about flooding hazards identified at US reactors prior to Fukushima - UCS intends to explain how and why that info-hiding occurred.

Waiver_NatureOfPublic: Roughly one-third of the reactors operating in the United States have unresolved flooding hazard issues (e.g., GI-204). Many of the people living near these at-risk reactors, reporters in those areas, and local and state elected officials representing those at-risk populations may be interested in better understanding the hazard and what NRC knew when about it.

Waiver_MeansOfDissemination: UCS has presented our perspectives on flooding hazards to the US Congress, the NRC Commission, at professional society conferences, and public town hall meetings. UCS has prepared reports and blog posts on the topic. UCS plans a report on NRC's information withholding policies in FY15. I conduct hundreds of media interviews annually - not all on flooding hazards and information withholding, but many on these topics. UCS will provide commentaries via these avenues.

Waiver_FreeToPublicOrFee: Materials developed by UCS are posted to our website (www.ucsusa.org) and/or to our blog (www.allthingsnuclear.org) where they are available for viewing/downloading free of charge.

Waiver_PrivateCommericalInterest: None.
