

Case No.: 2014-0452Date Rec'd: 8/29/14Specialist: Stevens

Related Case: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOIA Resource**

**From:** David Lochbaum <dlochbaum@ucsusa.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2014 4:16 PM  
**To:** FOIA Resource  
**Subject:** WWW Form Submission

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by

David Lochbaum ([dlochbaum@ucsusa.org](mailto:dlochbaum@ucsusa.org)) on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 16:15:33

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](mailto:foia.resource@nrc.gov)

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 Company/Affiliation: Union of Concerned Scientists

Address1: PO Box 15316

Address2:

City: Chattanooga

State: TN

Zip: 37415

Country: United\_States

Country-Other:

Phone: 423-468-9272

Desc: All fire protection records received after October 1, 2004, by the NRC from the licensee for the South Texas Project nuclear plant, dockets 50-498 and 50-499, except for records already publicly available in ADAMS.

FeeCategory: Educational

MediaType:

MediaType\_Other\_Description:

Expedite\_ImminentThreatText:

Expedite\_UrgencyToInformText:

Waiver\_Purpose: SECY-04-0191 dated October 19, 2004 (ML042310663) indicated on page 7 of attachment 1 that with regard to fire protection, "Incoming documents are initially profiled as nonpublic – staff will review for

release upon request. Most information related to fire protection will not need to be designated as sensitive.” I found several Licensee Event Reports (LERs) about fire protection problems added to ADAMS on June 14, 2014, many that had been submitted many months earlier. The NRC staff explained to me that they had been withheld per this SECY. I seek these fire protection records to better understand the fire safety issue.

Waiver\_ExtentToExtractAnalyze: I will review the requested records to better understand the fire protection situation at operating reactors. I suspect that the records contain information about upgrades implemented and problems yet to be resolved.

Waiver\_SpecificActivityQuals: Fire safety is among the top three nuclear safety issues for UCS. I have authored reports, backgrounders, and blog posts about fire safety issues. I have presented our views on fire safety to the US Congress and the NRC Commission. Until all reactors have complied with either NFPA 805 or Appendix R, fire safety will likely remain a focus for UCS and I will continue to have opportunities to write and speak about the issue and our recommended solutions.

Waiver\_ImpactPublicUnderstanding: Currently, nearly half the operating reactors are not in compliance with the NRC’s fire protection regulations. That fact, and its proposed resolution, is of high interest to the public and state/local elected officials around these reactors. I have spoken about fire safety at public events and private meetings in Michigan, California, South Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, Ohio, and Maryland the past two years alone.

Waiver\_NatureOfPublic: Millions of Americans live within the 10-mile emergency planning zone of reactors operating today not in compliance with fire protection regulations. Many are interested in this elevated hazard and plans to properly manage this undue risk. The nuclear disaster at Fukushima only increased public interest in safety levels at nearby nuclear plants.

Waiver\_MeansOfDissemination: As mentioned in the response to Question 3 above, UCS places a high priority on fire safety. I have written and spoken frequently about the topic with written materials posted to our website ([www.ucsusa.org](http://www.ucsusa.org)) and blog ([allthingsnuclear.org](http://allthingsnuclear.org)). This focus and its products will likely continue for several years until all the operating reactors eventually achieve compliance with fire protection regulations.

Waiver\_FreeToPublicOrFee: Documents posted to the UCS website and blog are available for viewing/downloading at no charge.

Waiver\_PrivateCommericalInterest: None

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