FOIA/PA REQUEST
Case No.: 2015-0009
Date Rec'd: 10/3/14
Specialist: Staff
Related Case:

FOIA Resource

From: David Lochbaum <dlochbaum@ucsusa.org>
Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 1:15 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) on Friday, October 03, 2014 at 13:14:54

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/Affliation: Union of Concerned Scientists

Address1: PO Box 15316

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City: Chattanooga

State: TN

Zip: 37415

Country: United_States

Country-Other:

Phone: 423-468-9272

Desc: All emergency planning records received after October 1, 2004, by the NRC from the licensee for the Palo Verde nuclear plant, docket numbers 50-528, 50-529 and 50-530, except for records already publicly available in ADAMS. In cases involving multiple versions of the same document (e.g., Revisions 13, 14, 15, and 16 of EP Implementing Procedure XX, this request only seeks the oldest and most recent versions (i.e., Rev. 13 and 16 from the earlier example).

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 emergency planning, "Incoming documents are initially profiled as nonpublic – staff will review for release upon request. Most information related to emergency planning will not need to be designated as sensitive." I seek these records to better understand the emergency planning issue for both operating plants and plants undergoing decommissioning. Former NRC Commissioner Jaczko termed emergency planning as the "litmus test" for the NRC's relationship with the public. UCS agrees with this characterization. Recently, there's been considerable interest, including letters to the Commission from Members of Congress, questioning the significant reduction in scope of emergency planning for decommissioning plants compared to operating plants. The requested records should help me better understand these issues.

Waiver_ExtentToExtractAnalyze: I will review the requested records to better understand the emergency planning situation at operating and decommissioning reactors. Of particular interest to UCS are the emergency planning upgrades at operating plants inspired by Fukushima lessons learned and reductions in the scope of emergency planning at decommissioning plants.

Waiver_SpecificActivityQuals: Emergency planning is a key nuclear safety issues for UCS. Prior to joining UCS, my work in the nuclear industry included specific emergency planning assignments. For example, as a Shift Technical Advisor at Browns Ferry I participated in emergency response exercises and drills, including those observed and evaluated by the NRC. I was an observer/evaluator of emergency drills and exercises conducted at the Grand Gulf and Shoreham nuclear plants. Since joining UCS, I have periodically worked on emergency planning issues. For example, I accepted an invitation from the NRC to observe from the Incident Response Center a biennial emergency exercise conducted for the Farley nuclear plant. I participated in the post-exercise conducted by the NRC and was invited to share my observations with the NRC staff and managers.

Waiver_ImpactPublicUnderstanding: The referenced SECY paper implies that all incoming emergency planning documents will be initially made non-public, but will be made public upon request. UCS has seen some incoming emergency planning documents in ADAMS, but we lack means to ascertain if these records represent the minority or majority of those records. In any case, UCS will review the requested records (along with incoming records already made available in ADAMS) and develop reports, fact sheets, etc. to help the public understand the upgrades to emergency planning resulting from Fukushima's lessons and the downgrades to emergency planning requested during decommissioning.

Waiver_NatureOfPublic: The lessons learnable from the accident at Fukushima include several in the emergency planning area. In addition, the ongoing decommissioning of several nuclear plants resulted in owners' requests to reduce the scope of their emergency plans. UCS fields many inquiries from elected officials, citizens, and media about emergency planning for operating and decommissioning reactors. UCS seeks the requested records to supplement our awareness of the topic and provide more insightful commentary in response to these inquiries.

Waiver_MeansOfDissemination: UCS develops reports, briefs, backgrounds, fact sheets, and commentaries that we post to our website (www.ucsusa.org) and blog (allthingsnuclear.org). In addition, we respond to calls and emails from citizens and media representatives and present our views at events sponsored by public interest groups, local governments, and the federal government (e.g., Congress and the NRC). With a high level of current interest in emergency planning at operating reactors and decommissioning reactors, UCS will likely convey insights from our review of the requested records via a multiple of these options.

Waiver_FreeToPublicOrFee: UCS develops reports, briefs, backgrounds, fact sheets, and commentaries that we post to our website (www.ucsusa.org) and blog (allthingsnuclear.org). In addition, we respond to calls and emails from citizens and media representatives and present our views at events sponsored by public interest groups, local governments, and the federal government (e.g., Congress and the NRC). With a high level of current interest in emergency planning at operating reactors and decommissioning reactors, UCS will likely convey insights from our review of the requested records via a multiple of these options.

Waiver_PrivateCommericalInterest: None