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CASE NO: 2017-0110
DATE REC'D: 10/27/2016
SPECIALIST:
RELATED CASE:

October 27, 2016

FOIA / Privacy Act Officer
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T-6 D8
Washington, DC 20555-0001

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 522, as amended and 10 C.F.R. 9.8 of the Commission's regulations Greenpeace requests that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission provide us with any and all documents associated with the "uncharacteristically large" reactor system coolant leak reported September 2, 2016 that resulted in a technical specification required shutdown at Wolf Creek. (ML16293A581)

Please consider "documents" to include photographs, reports, studies, test results, correspondence, memoranda, meeting notes, meeting minutes, working papers, graphs, charts, diagrams, notes from drop-in visits and summaries of conversations and interviews, computer records, e-mail and any other form of written communications including internal NRC memoranda.

Pursuant to and in compliance with 10 C.F.R. 9.41 of the Commission's regulations governing requests for fee waivers, Greenpeace provides the following information.

Greenpeace seeks the requested information solely to contribute to and help shape the public debate concerning NRC's role in the regulation of the nuclear industry. The information provided by the NRC will be analyzed and used in our on-going work with public interest groups and the media on the age related degradation of US nuclear reactors.

Greenpeace is a nationally known non-profit public interest organization founded in 1971. We will use these documents in preparation of our analysis of the nuclear industry & NRC application of lessons learned after the Davis Besse vessel head degradation.

The requested information and Greenpeace's analysis will greatly contribute to the public's understanding of the Commission's role in regulating the nuclear industry. There is very little information in the public domain regarding the September 2 shutdown at Wolf Creek other than the fact that the RCS leak wasn't caused by the a coincidental earthquake near the site. (<http://www.wibw.com/content/news/Wolf-Creek-shutdown-not-related-to-weekend-quake-392468351.html>)

We plan to broadly disseminate the information contained in our analysis to the press and the general public. For several years now our publications, comments and press releases have been made available free of charge on our web site. The requested information will significantly increase the public understanding of the issue and the NRC's role in regulating the nuclear industry.

Our past publications have attracted attention in the local, national and trade media. Copies of the reports have been distributed to members of the public, the nuclear industry, citizen groups, federal & state governments and members of Congress.

Greenpeace has no commercial or private interest in the agency records sought.

Since "disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operation or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester" (5 U.S.C. 552 (a)(4)(A) (iii)), we request a complete waiver of any processing or duplicating costs you might incur in providing these records to us. If you rule otherwise, please notify us before filling the request.

If all or any parts of this request are denied, please cite the specific exemptions on which you rely in refusing to release the documents.

Further, since the Freedom of Information Act provides that the remainder of a file must be released if only portions are exempt from disclosure, we request that we be provided with all non-exempt portions that are reasonably segregable. Of course, we reserve our right to appeal the withholding or deletion of any information.

As provided in the Freedom of Information Act Amendments, we will expect to receive the requested records or a final determination within twenty working days. If your office is unable to fully respond to this request in that time, please send us a written estimate of when the request will be completed.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact me at 202-319-2487. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Jim Riccio
Nuclear Policy Analyst
Greenpeace
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Washington, DC 20001