

RESPONSE TO FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST

FOIA or Reference Number

FOIA-2024-000330

Response Number

1

Response
Type☐

Interim

☒

Final

Requester:

Joe Carson

Date:

06/27/2025

Description of Requested Records:

All email correspondence, including any attachments, between Lawrence Criscione and Paul Bollwerk during the week of July 29 to August 3, 2024

PART I. -- INFORMATION RELEASED

- ☒ The NRC has made some, or all, of the requested records publicly available through one or more of the following means:
(1) <https://www.nrc.gov>; (2) public ADAMS, <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>; (3) microfiche available in the NRC Public Document Room; or the NRC Public Access Link (PAL), at <https://foia.nrc-gateway.gov/app/Home.aspx>.
- ☐ Agency records subject to the request are enclosed.
- ☐ Records subject to the request that contain information originated by or of interest to another Federal agency have been referred to that agency (See Part I.D -- Comments) for a disclosure determination and direct response to you.
- ☐ We are continuing to process your request.
- ☒ See Part I.D -- Comments.

PART I.A -- FEES

AMOUNT

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You will be billed by NRC for the amount indicated.

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You will receive a refund for the amount indicated.

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Fees waived.

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Since the minimum fee threshold was not met, you will not be charged fees.

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Due to our delayed response, you will not be charged search and/or duplication fees that would otherwise be applicable to your request.

PART I.B -- INFORMATION NOT LOCATED OR WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE

- ☐ We did not locate any agency records responsive to your request. *Note:* Agencies may treat three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records as not subject to the FOIA ("exclusions"). See 5 U.S.C. 552(c). This is a standard notification given to all requesters; it should not be taken to mean that any excluded records do, or do not, exist.
- ☒ We have withheld certain information pursuant to the FOIA exemptions described, and for the reasons stated, in Part II.
- ☐ Because this is an interim response to your request, you may not appeal at this time. We will notify you of your right to appeal any of the responses we have issued in response to your request when we issue our final determination.
- ☒ You may appeal this final determination within 90 calendar days of the date of this response. If you submit an appeal by mail, address it to the FOIA Officer, at U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop T-6 A60M, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001. You may submit an appeal by email to FOIA.resource@nrc.gov. You may fax an appeal to (301) 415-5130. Please be sure to include on your submission that it is a "FOIA Appeal." You may file an appeal through the NRC Public Access Link (PAL) at <https://foia.nrc-gateway.gov/app/Home.aspx>.

PART I.C -- REFERENCES AND POINTS OF CONTACT

You have the right to seek assistance from the NRC's FOIA Public Liaison by submitting your inquiry at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/contact-foia.html>, or by calling the FOIA Public Liaison at (301) 415-0717.

If we have denied your request, you have the right to seek dispute resolution services from the NRC's Public Liaison or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). To seek dispute resolution services from OGIS, you may email OGIS at ogis@nara.gov, send a fax to (202) 741-5789, or send a letter to: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001. For additional information about OGIS, please visit the OGIS website at <https://www.archives.gov/ogis>.



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PART I.D -- COMMENTS

The FOIA Office received your FOIA request on August 7, 2024, and tasked the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel (ASLBP), Region III (RIII), and the Office of Enforcement (OE) to locate the emails (dated 7/29/24, 7/30/24, and 8/3/24) responsive to your request.

ASLBP staff provided us records responsive to your request. These three emails were placed on the public Electronic Hearing Docket (EHD) for the Oconee license renewal proceeding, <https://adams.nrc.gov/ehd/> in November 2024 under ML accession number ML24326A366; the emails are denominated as Attachments A-C in that pleading. Please note that the last attachment to the 7/29/24 email (Attachment A), identified as ML17352A430 in the email, was processed in response to a previous FOIA request, NRC-2018-000318. A redacted version of this Study may be found starting on page 4 of ML18179A032. We continue to assert FOIA exemption 5, as it incorporates the deliberative process privilege, and FOIA exemption 6, protecting the identity of the program participants, for the content redacted from the Study. As we explained in our response to that FOIA request, because the number of DPO and/or NPO submitters (whose identities may be publicly known as a result of the release of their DPO/NPO submissions) who were asked to participate in a confidential survey was small, the statistics pertaining to their response rates, and the nature of their responses, have been redacted in order to preserve the submitters' anonymity.

Prior to making Attachments A-C publicly available, NRC staff identified content that they identified as Critical Energy/Electric Infrastructure Information (CEII), and consulted with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC designated this redacted content as CEII. Once so designated, the NRC must withhold this content under FOIA exemption 3, in conjunction with 16 U.S.C. 824o-1(d).

Please refer to Part II for more information about the partial denial of information responsive to your request. This completes our processing of your request.

Signature - Freedom of Information Act Officer or Designee

Alecia S. Sillah

Digitally signed by Alecia S. Sillah
Date: 2025.06.27 07:55:19 -04'00'

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PART II.A -- APPLICABLE EXEMPTIONS

Records subject to the request are being withheld in their entirety or in part under the FOIA exemption(s) as indicated below (5 U.S.C. 552(b)), after taking into consideration the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing records and applying these FOIA exemptions.

- ☐ Exemption 1: The withheld information is properly classified pursuant to an Executive Order protecting national security information.
- ☐ Exemption 2: The withheld information relates solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of NRC.
- ☒ Exemption 3: The withheld information is specifically exempted from public disclosure by the statute indicated.
- ☐ Sections 141-145 of the Atomic Energy Act, which prohibits the disclosure of Restricted Data or Formerly Restricted Data (42 U.S.C. 2161-2165).
- ☐ Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act, which prohibits the disclosure of Unclassified Safeguards Information (42 U.S.C. 2167).
- ☐ 41 U.S.C. 4702(b), which prohibits the disclosure of contractor proposals, except when incorporated into the contract between the agency and the submitter of the proposal.
- ☒ Other: 16 U.S.C. 824o-1(d), which prohibits the disclosure of Critical Electric/Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII)
- ☐ Exemption 4: The withheld information is a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information that is being withheld for the reason(s) indicated.
- ☐ The information is considered to be proprietary because it concerns a licensee's or applicant's physical protection or material control and accounting program for special nuclear material pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(d)(1).
- ☐ The information is considered to be another type of confidential business (proprietary) information.
- ☐ The information was submitted by a foreign source and received in confidence pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(d)(2).
- ☒ Exemption 5: The withheld information consists of interagency or intraagency records that are normally privileged in civil litigation.
- ☒ None of the information being withheld under Exemption 5/Deliberative Process Privilege is appropriate for discretionary disclosure.
- ☐ Attorney work product privilege.
- ☐ Attorney-client privilege.
- ☒ Exemption 6: The withheld information from a personnel, medical, or similar file, is exempted from public disclosure because its disclosure would result in a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
- ☐ Exemption 7: The withheld information consists of records compiled for law enforcement purposes and is being withheld for the reason(s) indicated.
- ☐ (A) Disclosure could reasonably be expected to interfere with an open enforcement proceeding.
- ☐ (C) Disclosure could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
- ☐ (D) The information consists of names and other information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to reveal identities of confidential sources.
- ☐ (E) Disclosure would reveal techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or guidelines that could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law.
- ☐ (F) Disclosure could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual.
- ☐ Other:

PART II.B -- DENYING OFFICIALS

In accordance with 10 CFR 9.25(g) and 9.25(h) of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations, the official(s) listed below have made the determination to withhold certain information responsive to your request.

DENYING OFFICIAL	TITLE/OFFICE	INFORMATION DENIED	APPELLATE OFFICIAL		
			EDO	SECY	OIG
Alecia Sillah	FOIA Officer	PII, Deliberative Process Privilege, CEII	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select Title/Office from drop-down list		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select Title/Office from drop-down list		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select Title/Office from drop-down list		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>