

**RESPONSE TO FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST**

FOIA-2026-000442

1

Response
Type☐

Interim

☒

Final

Requester:

Tira Hightower

Date:

09/17/2026

Description of Requested Records:

Specific personnel information for a named individual from 1942-1946, while the individual was employed at the Metallurgical Laboratory at the University of Chicago (Manhattan Project). See Part I.D.

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://nrc.secureocp.com>.
- ☐ 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

- ☐ You will be billed by NRC for the amount indicated.
- ☐ You will receive a refund for the amount indicated.
- ☐ Fees waived.
- ☒ Since the minimum fee threshold was not met, you will not be charged fees.
- ☐ 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. 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://nrc.secureocp.com>.

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/foia-privacy>, or by calling the FOIA Public Liaison at (301) 415-7169.

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 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 Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received your request on September 15, 2026. You specifically requested the following information for a named individual:

- His personnel security / clearance file, including any background investigation and "Q" clearance records;
- His employment and personnel records for the Metallurgical Laboratory (University of Chicago) and Argonne National Laboratory — appointment, position, badge, and service records;
- His occupational radiation-exposure records — dosimetry, bioassay, and health-physics monitoring;
- Any other records naming him within Manhattan Engineer District or Atomic Energy Commission files.

The University of Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory fall under the Department of Energy (DOE); therefore, we recommend you contact DOE at: <https://www.energy.gov/gc/freedom-information-act>.

With regard to radiation exposure records, visit this website: <https://reirs.orau.gov/requests.html>.

Finally, with regard to your request for "any other records naming him" within the Manhattan Engineer District or Atomic Energy Commission files, this is the determination: The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a search reasonably calculated to locate existing agency records. It does not require staff to create new records, perform research, answer questions, or act as investigators. At this time, this portion of your request does not reasonably describe the records sought with sufficient specificity to enable a proper search. As such, fulfilling this portion of your request as written would impose an unduly burdensome search obligation on the agency. The NRC requires, to the extent possible, that requesters include specific information that will help the NRC identify the requested records, such as the date, title or name, author, recipient, subject matter of the record, case number, docket number, file designation, or other reference number.

In the alternative, you may access the NRC's ADAMS Public Search (APS) for agency records. More information about APS is available at: <https://www.nrc.gov/documents-reports/adams-public-documents>.

This concludes the processing of your request.

Signature - Freedom of Information Act Officer or Designee

Alecia S. Sillah

Digitally signed by Alecia S. Sillah
Date: 2026.09.17 14:44:33 -04'00'