Morris, Alexander

From: FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2009 2:37 PM
To: FOIA-Central
Subject: DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

Name: Ryan McLaughlin

Organization: independent

Address:

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Phone:

FAX:

Email:

Record Description:

Congressional Appropriations for energy programs related to biomass and biofuel appropriated in Omnibus Spending Bills such as HR. 1105, and in annual budgets of the Department of Energy. Specifically, congressionally directed funds for research, development, commercialization, and financing of programs both public and private in the biomass and biofuel sectors from year 2005 until the present. Funds will probably fall under the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program, also through Office of Science programs, such as the genomics program of the office of science.

Preferred Form or Format: PDF

Type of Requester (if provided):

An individual seeking information for personal use and not for commercial use.

Fees and Fee Waivers:

I request a waiver or reduction of fees.

Waiver or Reduction of Fees Factors (if provided):

1. The subject of the request: Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government."

Yes, is concerns direct federal funding per congressional appropriation.

2. The informative value of the information to be disclosed: Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities.

Yes, will contribute to the understanding of congressional energy interests and policies.

3. The contribution to an understanding by the general public of the subject likely to result from disclosure, taking into account your ability and intent to disseminate the information to the public in a form that can further understanding of the subject matter.

Yes, information will be compiled and freely available.

4. The significance of the contribution to public understanding: Whether the disclosure is likely to contribute "significantly" to public understanding of government operations or activities.

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Yes, will further understanding of Congressional Energy Policy.

5. The existence and magnitude of a commercial interest: Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure, and, if so

No, there is absolutely no commercial interest at stake, interest is personal.

6. The primary interest in disclosure: Whether the magnitude of the identified commercial interest of the requester is sufficiently large, in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester."

No commercial interest.

Expedited Processing:

I believe a compelling need exists to warrant expedited processing because there is:

an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity exists (this option available ONLY for requesters primarily engaged in disseminating information)

Specific Justification for Expedited Processing:

The current Congress and Obama Administration are pursuing an aggressive energy agenda focused on biofuel based energy independence. Likewise, public attention on bioenergy issues is significant and growing, and requested information will result in a more informed public and a more developed sense of Congressional priorities regarding biomass and biofuel development. There are numerous states involved in energy policy development, and the federal government is quickly formulating a National Energy Policy, further highlighting the need for increased understanding of congressional appropriations for biomass and biofuel development.