Morris, Alexander

From: FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov
Sent: Friday, April 03, 2009 2:02 PM
To: FOIA-Central
Subject: DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

Name: Ian Talley

Organization: Dow Jones Newswires

SCIENTIFIC/EDUCATIONAL/NEWS MEDIA
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Record Description:

Any correspondence between Congressional offices and the Department of Energy regarding Vitol oil contracts. Any correspondence between DOE and Vitol between Januay 2009 and the present.

Preferred Form or Format: email

Type of Requester (if provided):

A representative of the news media affiliated with Dow Jones Newswires, publishers of the Wall Street Journal and the request is made as part of news gathering and not for commercial use.

Type of Media (if provided):

Other: Newswire

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."

The request is clearly concerning the operations or activities of the government, as it regards contracts the government may be entering into to fill federally-owned stratgeic petroleum reserves.

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.

- The disclosure is likely to contribute to an understanding of government operations or activities, as it should reveal such aforementioned deals.

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.

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- Given that the request is made under the auspices of Dow Jones Newswires, a mainstream media organization whose primary task is informing the public, the disclosure is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations or activities.

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.

- Given that the request is made under the auspices of Dow Jones Newswires, a mainstream media organization whose primary task is informing the public, the disclosure is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations or activities.

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

- Dow Jones Newswires has no commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure

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."

- The primary interest in disclosure is for the public disclosure of the workings and activities of the government.

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: