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Associated Press
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January 9, 2009

Abel Lopez
Director, FOIA/PA Division, ME-73
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Dear Mr. Lopez:

This is a request under the federal Freedom of Information Act, as amended, 5 USC 552. I am making this request in my capacity as a full-time journalist for The Associated Press.

I am seeking a list, also known as an index or log, of the following correspondence:

Any correspondence between Steven Chu and the Energy Department Office of the Secretary between January 1, 2004, and Dec. 31, 2008. If the Energy Department does not keep a correspondence log but does have such correspondence, I would like copies of the correspondence.

I am requesting this information for the purpose of possible public dissemination in a news article and therefore request that you waive charges pursuant to 5 USC 552 (a) (4) (A), Fed. Reg. 7296, Section 1900.25. If you deny this request for a waiver, please advise me in advance of the estimated charges so I may decide whether to pay the fees or appeal.

As I am making this request in the capacity of a journalist for The Associated Press and this information involves Steven Chu, the incoming energy secretary, and is therefore of timely value, I ask that you expedite this request as provided under the Clinton administration FOIA guidelines. If you have already received similar FOIA requests, I ask that you handle mine concurrent with those and make the material available to me at the same time it is made available to others.

I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone, e-mail or fax if you have questions about this request. My phone number is 202-641-9466. My e-mail address is stheimer@ap.org, and my fax number is 202-263-8837.

Thank you for your assistance, and I will look forward to receiving your reply as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

FOIA-2009-000020

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Sharon Theimer, reporter
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