



OFFICE of GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

August 5, 2016 — Sent via email

[REDACTED]

Re: Case No. 201600748
NG: CM: KG

NATIONAL
ARCHIVES
and RECORDS
ADMINISTRATION

8601 ADELPHI ROAD
OGIS
COLLEGE PARK, MD
20740-6001

web: www.ogis.archives.gov
e-mail: ogis@nara.gov
phone: 202-741-5770
toll-free: 1-877-684-6448
fax: 202-741-5769

Dear [REDACTED]:

This responds to your request for assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), which we received on April 11, 2016 via email. Your request for assistance pertains to your records request to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

OGIS was created to complement existing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) practice and procedure; we strive to work in conjunction with the existing request and appeal process. The goal is for OGIS to allow, whenever practical, the requester to exhaust his or her remedies within the agency, including the appeal process. Please know that OGIS has no investigatory or enforcement power, nor can we compel an agency to release documents. OGIS serves as the Federal FOIA Ombudsman and our jurisdiction is limited to assisting with the FOIA process.

OGIS provides mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. After opening a case, OGIS gathers information from the requester and the agency to learn more about the nature of the dispute. This process helps us gather necessary background information, assess whether the issues are appropriate for mediation, and determine the willingness of the parties to engage in our services. As part of our information gathering, OGIS carefully reviewed your submission of information.



You made a request to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for records related to [REDACTED]. The FBI referred documents to the DOE for processing and direct response to you. On [REDACTED], DOE responded to the referral and released the documents in part pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. 552522 § (b)(6). You appealed this determination. On [REDACTED], DOE responded to your appeal, informing you that the Office of Information Resources withdrew its previous determination on the referred letter and would issue you a new response. On [REDACTED], DOE issued a new determination letter, releasing additional portions of the previously-released records. You appealed this determination, and on [REDACTED],

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Aug. 5, 2016

Page 2 of 2

DOE responded to your appeal by affirming the agency's actions. You requested OGIS's assistance with this matter.

OGIS contacted DOE to discuss the agency's responses to the referred records. After speaking with DOE about your case, the agency determined that it will again review the records and provide you with another release. You should receive this response within the next week.

I hope you find this information useful. Thank you for contacting OGIS; we will now consider this matter closed.

Sincerely,

/s/

NIKKI GRAMIAN

Acting Director

We appreciate your feedback. Please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/OGIS> to take a brief anonymous survey on the service you received from OGIS.