Friends of the Earth

SR-09-022

Received on APR 30 2009
Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act
Office of the Chief Counsel
DOE Savannah River Site

April 17, 2009

Savannah River Operations Office
FOIA Requester Service Center
P.O. Box A
Aiken, SC 29801

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APR 30 2009

FOIA Request for "Energy Park" Lease and Documents

To Whom It Concerns:

This is a request being filed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), as amended. I am hereby filing this pursuant to the new Department of Energy (DOE) FOIA regulations and appreciate your response to this request within 20 days.

I am filing this request as a duly authorized employee of Friends of the Earth, a non-profit environmental organization, with which I hold the title Southeastern Nuclear Campaign Coordinator. All information gathered under this request will be used for non-profit, public education purposes only, both in South Carolina and nation-wide.

I request that all fees with this request be waived given the non-profit educational and scientific use of the information. My organization and I will disseminate the information obtained under this request to the benefit of public understanding of the Savannah River Site and programs being carried out at the site. Most recently, I was granted a fee waiver for a FOIA request to DOE and expect the same standard to be applied for this request.

I am filing this FOIA request as the DOE chose not to make public some of the information requested via a non-FOIA request.

I request that the information be provided as it becomes available and that you do not wait until all the information is accumulated to provide it to me.

I maintain the right to appeal any aspect of your decisions regarding this request.

This request applies to the Savannah River Operations Office, all Department of Energy offices, and to all contractors which work under contract with SRS or DOE. If such information is held in DOE headquarters, this FOIA request also applies to all entities there, including in the general counsel's office at both DOE headquarters and at SRS. I request that you pass this request to DOE headquarters for response.

If any document is marked with any type of security classification, I request that public versions of such documents be released. I request table of contents and indexes of all documents if partially withheld. If DOE claims any type of exemption, I request that a full explanation of such denial be made, with full citation of DOE regulations allowing such exemption.

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FOIA-2009-000308

Sheila

If DOE claims to withhold documents as they are in draft form, I request a full explanation as to why such documents are not being finalized and how such withholding complies with DOE regulations. I request that any document withheld as it is in draft form be finalized and released. I request that if there is any claim that such requested information is deemed to be privileged or confidential commercial information that a full explanation and documentation per DOE regulations of such withholding be made and that non-confidential versions of such documents be released.

I am attaching a Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin of April 16, 2009 in which it is stated that an Environmental Assessment is being prepared for an "Energy Park" lease at SRS.

The use of the term "documents" in this request includes, but is not limited to, all leases, contracts, legal analyses, and reports in digital or written form, e-mails and attachments, and other written information.

Information requested can be provided in printed form or via a CD or DVD. I acknowledge that all information obtained under this request becomes part of the public record.

I hereby request the following information:

1. Copies of any lease and other documents between DOE and the SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) or any other entity for creation of an "Energy Park" at SRS.
2. Any DOE documents pertaining to: a) an assessment of the environmental status of the 2700 acres chosen as an "Energy Park", b) the possible uses, including reprocessing, spent fuel storage or nuclear reactors, for the 2700 acres designated for an Energy Park and c) the costs to DOE for creation of an "Energy Park."
3. Any documents prepared by the DOE's general counsel either at SRS or in DOE headquarters in Washington about the leasing of 2700 acres to the SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) or any other entity for an "Energy Park," including a legal assessment of both the lease and the "Energy Park" idea.
4. The DOE policy statement or directive from the DOE secretary's office authorizing "Energy Parks" or the "Energy Park Initiative" and the parallel policy statement or directive on "Energy Parks" or the "Energy Parks Initiative" by the Office of Environmental Management.

Thank you very much for your timely attention to this FOIA request and for applying the new FOIA standards to this request.

If you have further questions or want to discuss this request, please contact me via telephone at 803-834-3084 or via e-mail at tomclements329@cs.com.

Sincerely,

Tom Clements

Tom Clements

Sheila,
Fee waiver granted by Savannah
Only 3 & 4 are being transferred to HQ to search.
Ann

Environmental Bulletin

Volume 20 Number 9
April 16, 2009

from the Savannah River Site

EA being prepared for the proposed lease of SRS lands to the SRS Community Reuse Organization

DOE has determined that an environmental assessment (EA) will be prepared to evaluate the potential environmental consequences of the proposed lease of a 2,700 acre tract of undeveloped SRS lands to the SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) for the development of an Energy Park. The purpose of the proposed action is to facilitate economic development in the Central Savannah River Area by allowing commercial entities to take advantage of the many positive attributes of the SRS which make it well suited for alternative and nuclear energy activities. The scope of the proposed action is limited to evaluating the impacts of leasing the SRS lands to the SRSCRO. The SRSCRO would work to obtain tenant entities for the Energy Park, and appropriate NEPA review of the environmental impacts of constructing and operating any alternative or nuclear energy facilities would be conducted when a specific proposal comes forward.

Notifications of DOE's intent to prepare this EA were sent to the States of Georgia and South Carolina on April 8, 2009. If you would like a copy of the predecisional EA when it becomes available, please contact:

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U.S. Department of Energy, Savannah River Operations Office
Building 730-1B, Room 3150, Aiken, SC 29808
e-mail: nepa@srs.gov
Fax/telephone 1-800-881-7292