Morris, Alexander

From: FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2009 3:10 PM
To: FOIA-Central
Subject: DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

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FEB 2 4 2009 02

SCIENTIFIC/EDUCATIONAL/NEWS MEDIA
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Record Description:

Any and all records, data and memos relating to the participation of Petro-Electric Motors, Ltd., in the Federal Clean Car Incentive Program during the years 1970-1976. In addition, I would appreciate any memos or correspondence of former EPA deputy administrator Eric Stork in regard to Petro-Electric Motors and their participation in the Federal Clean Car Incentive Program.

The Federal Clean Car Incentive Program was part of the EPA's Advanced Automotive Power Systems Division which was transferred to the Department of Energy in 1976. The EPA has indicated that any files on the FCCIP would remain with the DOE.

Preferred Form or Format: digital

Type of Requester (if provided):

A representative of the news media affiliated with PajamasMedia and the request is made as part of news gathering and not for commercial use.

Type of Media (if provided):

Other: News agency and web portal

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 concerns the oprations or activities of a government agency.

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.

Diclosure will contribute to an understanding of how the EPA administered a potentially promising hybrid technology.

3. The contribution to an understanding by the general public of the subject likely to

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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.

Victor Wouk is now accepted as a major pioneer in the development of electric and hybrid electric vehicles. Much of his work on hybrid was done as part of the FCCIP. Disclosing information on the EPA's administration of the FCCIP will contribute to an understanding by the general public of the history of hybrid electric vehicles.

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.

Mr. Wouk's account of his participation in the FCCIP has been published. Disclosure of the role of the EPA and its personnel will significantly contribute to a greater 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

I'm a journalist researching a story. I don't know if that constitutes a commercial interest or not.

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."

Whatever commercial interest I might have as a journalist is secondary to the public's interest in understanding how a promising technology was treated by a government agency.

Expedited Processing:

Specific Justification for Expedited Processing: