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MAR 14 2007

Fay, Tracey

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MRM FOIA 2007-021

From: Morgan, Ginny
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 9:45 AM
To: Kann, Gregory
Subject: FW: Another FOIA
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: Thursday, March 15, 2007 12:00 AM
Flag Status: Red

Greg – another POGO one.
I don't think I sent you this one yesterday.

Ginny Morgan
MMS FOIA/Privacy Officer
703-787-1689

From: Beth Daley [mailto:beth@pogo.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2007 3:35 PM
To: Morgan, Ginny
Subject: Another FOIA

March 8, 2007

Ginny Morgan
MS:2200
381 Elden Street
Herndon, VA 20170-4817

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Ms. Morgan:

I am making this request under the Freedom Of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552.

I would like to receive all copies of reports, letters, research, and analyses conducted by outside firms (including but not limited to Thompson, Cobb & Bazillo) on the Minerals Management Service auditing and compliance review activities since 2000. For example, I would like to receive a copy of the report noted in the MMS' January, 2007 press release: "In November, 2005, an independent certified public accounting firm issued a clean audit opinion of MMS's audit program with no material weaknesses, and no reportable conditions." (See <http://www.mms.gov/oc/p/press/2007/press0119.htm>.)

3/14/2007

I request a waiver of all costs associated with fulfilling this submission pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). Disclosure of the requested records will further the “public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest” of the requester, the Project On Government Oversight (POGO). Specifically, POGO intends to use the requested records to highlight [issue i.e., when appropriate, specifically explain how the disclosure of the requested records will contribute to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government].

Founded in 1981, POGO is an independent nonprofit that investigates and exposes corruption in order to achieve a more accountable federal government. POGO disseminates information about its activities to thousands of concerned citizens, policymakers, and the media via email, direct mail, and its web site <http://www.pogo.org>, which receives 75,000 visitors monthly. The information provided by the agency will be used for the following activities: publication by email and on our website; publication in reports and newsletters issued by POGO; publication in the newsletters of affiliated nonprofit organizations; efforts to educate Congress, the Executive Branch, and other policymakers in Washington, DC; or investigational projects conducted in conjunction with the news media.

If this request is denied in full or in part, please cite the exemptions pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b) that justify the denial. If an exemption applies, however, please consider exercising the agency’s discretionary release powers to disclose the records. Additionally, please release all reasonably segregable portions of the records that do not meet an exemption.

I look forward to your response within 20 days of the receipt of this request, unless, in the case of “unusual circumstances,” the time limitation is “extended by written notice.” I may appeal this request if it is wholly or partially denied or if the agency fails to respond within 20 days. I am aware that, if successful, a federal district court may assess “reasonable attorney fees and other litigation costs” per 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(E).

Please contact me if this request requires further clarification. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Beth M. Daley
Director of Investigations

***** POGO HAS MOVED -- NOTE OUR NEW SUITE # BELOW *****

Beth Daley
Director of Investigations
Project On Government Oversight
666 11th Street, NW, #900, Washington, DC 20001
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3/14/2007