

# UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 20, 2022

NRC-2022-000065

sent via email to 123790-92610517@requests.muckrock.com

Mr. Dustin Slaughter MuckRock News Dept Mr 123725 411A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Mr. Slaughter:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request on January 19, 2022.

Your request, which seeks access to any and all records pertaining to sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) at or in the vicinity of the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, from September 2, 1974 to present, has been assigned the following reference number that you should use in any future communications with us about your request: NRC-2022-000065.

To ensure the most equitable treatment possible of all requesters, the NRC processes requests on a first-in, first-out basis, using a multiple track system based upon the estimated time it will take to process a request. Based on your description of records, we have placed your request in the simple track. The statutory due date for our response is February 16, 2022.

We will try our best to complete work on your request by the statutory due date; however, the actual date of completion might be before or after the statutory due date based on the complexity of all the requests in the simple track. In an effort to process your request promptly, you may wish to narrow the scope of your request to limit the number of responsive records.

For purposes of assessing fees in accordance with our regulations (10 CFR 9.33), we have placed your request in the following category: non-excepted. If applicable, you will be charged appropriate fees for: search and duplication. Unless you state otherwise, we expect to provide our response, including any released records, electronically. You will not incur duplication charges if we respond to you electronically.

A sheet has been enclosed that explains in detail the fee charges that may be applicable. Please do not submit any payment unless we notify you to do so.

Brittany Johnson (Contractor, Pathfinder Consultants, LLC) is the person assigned responsibility for your request in support of the NRC's Office of the Chief Information Officer. She may be reached by telephone at 301-415-3740 or via email to brittany.johnson@nrc.gov.

Slaughter, D. - 2-

If you have questions on any matters concerning your FOIA request, please feel free to contact Ms. Johnson or me at (301) 415-7169.

Sincerely,

Stephanie A. Blaney /s/

Stephanie A. Blaney FOIA Officer Office of the Chief Information Officer

Enclosure: Explanation of Fees

### **EXPLANATION OF FEES**

## **Requester Fee Categories**

**Commercial:** Fees are charged for <u>search, duplication, and review</u> when records are requested for commercial purposes. Fees (above the minimum fee charge) cannot be waived for this category of requester.

Educational or Non-Commercial Scientific Institution, Representative of the News Media, and Privacy Act: Fees may be charged only for document <u>duplication</u> when records are not sought for commercial use and the request is made by an Educational or Non-Commercial Scientific Institution, whose purpose is scholarly or scientific research; or a Representative of the News Media; or a person requesting his/her own records that are maintained in a Privacy Act system of records. No fee is charged for the first 100 pages of duplication for this category of requester.

**Non-Excepted:** For any request not described above, fees may be charged for document <u>search and</u> <u>duplication</u>. No fee is charged for the first two hours of search time or for the first 100 pages of duplication for this category of requester.

#### **Fee Schedules**

**Search and Review Charges**: Fee schedules provide only for the recovery of the direct costs of search, duplication, or review. Review costs include only the costs for initial examination of a document to determine whether it must be disclosed and to determine whether to withhold portions that are exempt from disclosure. The fee schedule is as follows:

Hourly <u>Rate</u>
\$ 103.24/hour (ES-maximum)
\$ 81.72/hour (GG-14, Step 7)
\$ 40.10/hour (GG-9, Step 7)

Duplication Charge: \$0.20/page

**Other Charges**: Fees for non-standard search or duplication will be charged at the actual cost (*e.g.* providing copying of audio tapes or conducting computer searches).

Minimum Fee: No fee will be charged unless the fee is greater than \$25.00.

## When to Pay Fees

If we estimate that fees will not exceed \$25.00 or you have stated in your request a higher amount that you are willing to pay, we assume your willingness to pay up to \$25.00 or the amount specified, and you will be billed after we have completed your request.

If we estimate that fees will exceed \$25.00 or any amount that has been stated by you in your request, we will not proceed with your request until we have notified you and obtained your agreement to pay the estimated fees.

If we estimate fees will exceed \$250.00, you will be required to pay the estimated fees in advance before we proceed further with your request. If the actual fees to process your request are less than any advance payment you have made, you will be refunded the overpayment amount.

#### Fee Waivers

A waiver or reduction of fees may be granted for furnishing documents if a requester, by fully addressing the eight factors in 10 CFR 9.41, clearly demonstrates that disclosure of the information is in 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.