

Exhibit 4

To Whom it May Concern,

Under the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (the “FOIA”), I request on behalf of myself, my employer National Public Radio, Inc. (NPR) and Caitlyn Kim, Carla Jimenez, Rachel Estabrook and their employer Colorado Public Radio (CPR) that the Department of Defense (DoD) make available to us for inspection and copying the following records related to US military activity at Karshi-Khanabad Air Base (K2), Uzbekistan:

All records from January 1, 2020 to the present — including but not limited to emails, call notes, memorandums, and reports that DoD shared within the agency, with other agencies, or with Congress — related to any health or environmental risks or concerns arising from plans to return to K2 after the US withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021.

The following is a list of individuals who we believe are likely to possess responsive records: Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Central Asia Rebecca Zimmerman, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Central Asia Thomas Croci, David F. Helvey, Mark Esper, Lloyd Austin, General Kenneth McKenzie, Jr. (CENTCOM), Vice Admiral James Malloy (CENTCOM), Major General Patrick Frank (CENTCOM), and Andrea Kendall-Taylor (NSC).

Segregation of non-exempt portions. As you know, the FOIA provides that if portions of a document are exempt from release, the remainder must be segregated and disclosed. Therefore, please send me all non-exempt portions of the records I have requested and justify any deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the FOIA. I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any materials. Since some of the documents listed above may be more readily available than others, please provide the documents that are available as soon as possible without waiting to provide access to all the documents.

Fee waiver request. The FOIA provides for waiver or reduction of fees if disclosure could be considered as “primarily benefiting the general public.” I am a journalist employed by NPR and intend to use the information I am requesting as a basis for a planned news story, which makes me a “representative of the news media.” Therefore, I ask that you waive all duplication fees. If you deny this request, however, and the fees will exceed \$250, please notify me of the charges before you fulfill our request so that I may decide whether to pay the fees or appeal your denial of our request for a waiver.

Contact information. I submit this request in my capacity as a journalist, and this information is time-sensitive. Accordingly, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone, (202)-525-7429 or email jhuo@npr.org rather than by mail, if you have any

questions regarding this request. You can also communicate with anyone in NPR's Legal Department, including Micah Ratner (mratner@npr.org) or Jeff Guo (jguo@npr.org).

I look forward to receiving your reply within twenty (20) days, as required by federal law. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with this FOIA request.