

Exhibit 4



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

March 10, 2022

Sent Via Email

Chris Stanley
Functional Government Initiative
CStanley@functionalgovernment.org

Re: FOIA-2022-00436

Dear Chris Stanley:

This is in response to your request dated January 4, 2022 under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") seeking access to the following records:

1. All meeting requests, meeting memos, briefing documents, schedules, communications, and any other records related to the submission, consideration, approval, and scheduling of meetings discussing the letter issued by the President on November 17, 2021, or any topics or issues contained in the President's letter including the basis for opening the requested investigation.
2. All communications, documents, and other records to, from, or between any commissioner of the FTC or any employee of the FTC discussing actions the Commission may take as a result of the President's letter of November 17, 2021.
3. All communications, documents, and other records to, from, or between any commissioner of the FTC or any employee of the FTC discussing how to respond to the President's letter of November 17, 2021, and whether or not to begin a new investigation into oil and gas markets as requested by the President's letter.
4. All communications, documents, and other records to, from, or between any commissioner of the FTC or their senior staff or FTC employees in the Bureau of Competition, the Bureau of Consumer Protection, the Bureau of Economics, the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Policy Planning, and the Office of Public Affairs containing evidence of any alleged "anti-consumer behavior" by oil and gas companies that was considered in the development of the President's November 17th letter.
5. All communications, including via email, text messages, and Microsoft Teams, between any FTC Commissioner or their senior staff or FTC employees in the Bureau of Competition, the Bureau of Consumer Protection, the Bureau of Economics, the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Policy Planning, and the Office of Public Affairs and employees the Department of the Interior, including but not limited to the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Office of the Solicitor, and Office of the Secretary.
6. All communications between Commissioners of the FTC or their staff and outside (non-governmental) organizations concerning or discussing the President's letter

requesting an investigation into oil and gas companies or any topics or issues contained in the President's letter including the basis for opening the requested investigation.

In accordance with the FOIA and agency policy, we have searched our records on February 10, 2022.

We located 116 pages of responsive records, all of which are exempt from the FOIA's disclosure requirement under FOIA Exemption 5, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). These records contain staff analyses, opinions, and recommendations. These records are deliberative and pre-decisional and are an integral part of the agency's decision making process. Therefore, they are exempt from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 5. *See NLRB v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.*, 421 U.S. 132 (1975). Accordingly, we are denying your request.

If you have any questions about the way we are handling your request or about the FOIA regulations or procedures, please contact Mark Brier at 202-326-3699.

If you are not satisfied with this response to your request, you may appeal by writing to Freedom of Information Act Appeal, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580, or via email at FOIAAppeal@ftc.gov, within 90 days of the date of this letter. Please enclose a copy of your original request and a copy of this response.

You also may seek dispute resolution services from the FTC FOIA Public Liaison Richard Gold via telephone at 202-326-3355 or via e-mail at rgold@ftc.gov; or from the Office of Government Information Services via email at ogis@nara.gov, via fax at 202-741-5769, or via mail at Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740. Please note that the FOIA Public Liaison's role relates to comments, questions or concerns that a FOIA Requester may have with or about the FOIA Response.

Sincerely,



Dione J. Stearns
Assistant General Counsel