U.S. District Court District of Columbia (Washington, DC) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:23-cv-02656-TNM

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY & OVERSIGHT v. U.S. Date Filed: 09/11/2023

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Assigned to: Judge Trevor N. McFadden

Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Terminated: 03/25/2024

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of

Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

Plaintiff

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY & OVERSIGHT

represented by Matthew D. Hardin

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LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

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V.

Defendant

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL **PROTECTION AGENCY** represented by Christina O'Tousa

DOJ-USAO 601 D Street NW Washington, DC 20530 $(202)\ 252-2437$

Email: christina.o'tousa@usdoj.gov

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
09/11/2023	1	COMPLAINT <i>Under the Freedom of Information Act</i> against ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ADCDC–10341492) filed by GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY & OVERSIGHT. (Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet, # 2 Summons to agency, # 3 Summons to US Attorney, # 4 Summons to US Attorney General)(Hardin, Matthew) (Entered: 09/11/2023)
09/11/2023	2	NOTICE of Appearance by Christopher Cochran Horner on behalf of GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY & OVERSIGHT (Horner, Christopher) (Entered: 09/11/2023)
09/12/2023		Case Assigned to Judge Trevor N. McFadden. (zljn) (Entered: 09/12/2023)
09/12/2023	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # 1 Notice and Consent)(zljn) (Entered: 09/12/2023)

09/13/2023	4	STANDING ORDER Establishing Procedures for Cases Before Judge Trevor N. McFadden. The parties are hereby ORDERED to read and comply with the directives in the attached standing order. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 9/13/2023. (lctnm2) (Entered: 09/13/2023)
10/10/2023	<u>5</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer re <u>1</u> Complaint, by U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(O'Tousa, Christina) (Entered: 10/10/2023)
10/10/2023	<u>6</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Christina O'Tousa on behalf of U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (O'Tousa, Christina) (Entered: 10/10/2023)
10/11/2023		MINUTE ORDER: Defendant's 5 Consent Motion for Extension of Time to File Answer is GRANTED. Defendant's Answer shall now be filed before or on November 14, 2023. The parties are advised that the pre–existing Standing Order 4 remains in effect, including the provisions governing motions for an extension of time ("Motions for extensions of time or to re–schedule a hearing must be filed at least four business days prior to the first affected deadline or scheduled hearing."). SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 10/11/2023. (lctnm2) (Entered: 10/11/2023)
11/14/2023	7	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.(O'Tousa, Christina) (Entered: 11/14/2023)
11/14/2023		MINUTE ORDER. Before the Court are a complaint and an answer in this FOIA case. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall meet and confer and file a Joint Status Report proposing a schedule for proceeding in this matter. The schedule should address, among other things, the status of Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated number of documents responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated date(s) for release of the documents requested by Plaintiff, whether a motion for an Open America stay is likely in this case, whether a Vaughn index will be required in this case, and a briefing schedule for dispositive motions, if required. The parties shall file the schedule on or before December 15, 2023. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 11/14/2022. (lctnm2) (Entered: 11/14/2023)
12/14/2023	<u>8</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. (O'Tousa, Christina) (Entered: 12/14/2023)
12/14/2023		MINUTE ORDER: After considering the <u>8</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are directed to file another JSR on or before 2/13/2024. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 12/14/2023. (lctnm2) (Entered: 12/14/2023)
02/13/2024	9	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. (O'Tousa, Christina) (Entered: 02/13/2024)
02/14/2024		MINUTE ORDER: After considering the <u>9</u> Joint Status Report, the Court ORDERS the parties to meet in–person to discuss the sufficiency of Defendant's productions. The Court FURTHER ORDERS the parties to file another JSR by April 1, 2024, updating the Court on the progress of their resolution efforts and proposing a briefing schedule, if necessary. Any request for a briefing schedule must certify the parties have met in–person and that despite good–faith negotiations, no resolution between the parties is possible. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 2/14/2024. (lctnm2) (Entered: 02/14/2024)
03/21/2024	<u>10</u>	STIPULATION of Dismissal by U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. (O'Tousa, Christina) (Entered: 03/21/2024)
03/22/2024		MINUTE ORDER: Having considered the parties' joint 11 Stipulation of Dismissal, and pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1)(A)(ii), the Court ORDERS that this matter is DISMISSED with prejudice. The Clerk of Court is directed to close the case. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 3/22/2024. (lctnm2) (Entered: 03/22/2024)