U.S. District Court District of Columbia (Washington, DC) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:22-cv-03419-CKK

INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY RESEARCH v. FEDERAL

ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION Assigned to: Judge Colleen Kollar–Kotelly

Case in other court: Texas Southern, 6:22-cv-00042

Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 11/08/2022 Date Terminated: 07/25/2024

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of

Information Act

Jurisdiction: Federal Question

Plaintiff

INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY RESEARCH

represented by Christopher Cochran Horner

CHRISTOPHER C HORNER ESO

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V.

Defendant

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

represented by Erika Kirstie Oblea

DOJ-USAO

US Attorney's Office 601 D Street NW Washington, DC 20530 (202) 252–2567

Email: erika.oblea@usdoj.gov
TERMINATED: 12/09/2022

LEAD ATTORNEY

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L'Shauntee J. Robertson

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LEAD ATTORNEY

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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
10/04/2022		COMPLAINT against Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Filing fee \$ 402 receipt number ATXSDC–28877639) filed by Institute for Energy Research.

		(Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet, # 2 Proposed Summonses)(Hardin, Matthew) [Transferred from Texas Southern on 11/8/2022.] (Entered: 10/04/2022)
10/05/2022	2	Summons Issued as to All Defendants, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General. Issued summons returned to plaintiff by NEF, filed.(BrittanyBoniface, 6) [Transferred from Texas Southern on 11/8/2022.] (Entered: 10/05/2022)
10/06/2022	3	ORDER for Initial Pretrial and Scheduling Conference and Order to Disclose Interested Persons. Initial Conference set for 1/9/2023 at 03:30 PM by video before Judge Drew B Tipton.(Signed by Judge Drew B Tipton) Parties notified.(BrittanyBoniface, 6) [Transferred from Texas Southern on 11/8/2022.] (Entered: 10/06/2022)
10/27/2022	4	NOTICE of Appearance by Christopher Horner on behalf of Institute for Energy Research, filed. (BrittanyBoniface, 6) [Transferred from Texas Southern on 11/8/2022.] (Entered: 10/27/2022)
11/04/2022	<u>5</u>	ANSWER to 1 Complaint by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, filed.(Siddiqui, Myra) [Transferred from Texas Southern on 11/8/2022.] (Entered: 11/04/2022)
11/04/2022	<u>6</u>	Joint MOTION to Transfer Case to District of Columbia by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, filed. Motion Docket Date 11/25/2022. (Attachments: # 1 Proposed Order)(Siddiqui, Myra) [Transferred from Texas Southern on 11/8/2022.] (Entered: 11/04/2022)
11/04/2022	7	ORDER TO TRANSFER CASE to District of Columbia; granting <u>6</u> Joint Motion to Transfer Case.(Signed by Judge Drew B Tipton) Parties notified.(BrittanyBoniface, 6) [Transferred from Texas Southern on 11/8/2022.] (Entered: 11/04/2022)
11/04/2022		Interdistrict transfer to District of Columbia. Case transferred electronically. Case terminated on 11/4/2022, filed. (BrittanyBoniface, 6) [Transferred from Texas Southern on 11/8/2022.] (Entered: 11/04/2022)
11/08/2022	8	Case transferred in from District of Texas Southern; Case Number 6:22–cv–00042. Original file ,transfer order and docket sheet received. (Entered: 11/08/2022)
11/08/2022	9	ORDER regarding Meet and Confer and Joint Status Report, proposing a schedule for proceeding in this matter, due by no later than DECEMBER 6, 2022. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar–Kotelly on 11/8/22. (lcckk3) (Entered: 11/08/2022)
11/08/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Meet & Confer Statement due by 12/6/2022. (dot) (Entered: 11/14/2022)
11/09/2022	<u>10</u>	ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR CASES ASSIGNED TO JUDGE COLLEEN KOLLAR-KOTELLY. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on 11/9/22. (DM) (Entered: 11/09/2022)
12/06/2022	<u>11</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Erika Kirstie Oblea on behalf of FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (Oblea, Erika) (Entered: 12/06/2022)
12/06/2022	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION. (Oblea, Erika) (Entered: 12/06/2022)
12/06/2022		MINUTE ORDER. The Court is in receipt of the 12 Joint Status Report, in which the parties indicate that the parties are continuing to discuss Plaintiff's FOIA request and that establishing a summary judgment briefing schedule and filing of a <i>Vaughn</i> index would be premature at this time. Per the parties' suggestion, the Court ORDERS that the parties shall file another Joint Status Report by no later than JANUARY 20, 2023 to update the Court on the progress of the parties' discussions and, to the extent necessary, to propose a briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar–Kotelly on 12/6/22. (lcckk3) (Entered: 12/06/2022)
12/06/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 1/20/2023, to update the Court on the progress of the parties' discussions and, to the extent necessary, to propose a briefing schedule. (dot) (Entered: 12/06/2022)
12/09/2022	<u>13</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Lshauntee J. Robertson on behalf of All Defendants Substituting for attorney Erika Oblea (Robertson, Lshauntee) (Entered: 12/09/2022)

01/20/2023	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION. (Robertson, L'Shauntee) (Entered: 01/20/2023)
01/20/2023		MINUTE ORDER. The Court is in receipt of the 14 Joint Status Report, in which the parties indicate since the last 12 Joint Status Report, Defendant has released four previously withheld documents, with redactions, and yesterday Plaintiff informed Defendant about Plaintiff's challenges to that release. Accordingly, Defendant believes that establishing a summary judgment briefing schedule and filing of a <i>Vaughn</i> index would be premature at this time; Plaintiff does not agree but is willing to engage in conferences in hopes of resolving or narrowing issues in dispute. Per the parties' suggestion, the Court ORDERS that the parties shall file another Joint Status Report by no later than MARCH 7, 2023 to update the Court on the progress of the parties' discussions and, to the extent necessary, to propose a briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar–Kotelly on 1/20/23. (lcckk3) (Entered: 01/20/2023)
01/20/2023		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 3/7/2023, to update the Court on the progress of the parties' discussions and, to the extent necessary, to propose a briefing schedule. (dot) (Entered: 01/25/2023)
03/07/2023	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION. (Robertson, L'Shauntee) (Entered: 03/07/2023)
03/08/2023	<u>16</u>	Scheduling and Procedures Order. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar–Kotelly on 3/8/23. (lcckk3) (Entered: 03/08/2023)
03/08/2023		Set/Reset Deadlines: Defendant's Summary Judgment Motion due by 5/5/2023. Response to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 6/19/2023. Reply to Motion for Summary Judgment due by 8/3/2023. Plaintiff's Cross Motion for Summary Judgment due by 6/19/2023. Response to Cross Motion for Summary Judgment due by 8/3/2023. Reply to Cross Motion for Summary Judgment due by 8/17/2023. (dot) (Entered: 03/08/2023)
03/27/2023		Cases Consolidated. Cases 22–3419 have been consolidated with case 22–2756, pursuant to an Order entered 03/27/2023. From this date forward, all pleadings shall be filed ONLY in the lead/earlier case, Civil Action No. 22–2756. The parties are advised NOT to elect the SPREAD TEXT option when filing in ECF, as this will result in repetitive docketing. (zjm) (Entered: 04/10/2023)
05/05/2023	<u>17</u>	MOTION for Summary Judgment by FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION. (Attachments: # 1 Declaration and Vaughn Index)(Robertson, L'Shauntee) (Entered: 05/05/2023)
06/20/2023	<u>18</u>	RESPONSE re 17 MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY RESEARCH. (Attachments: # 1 Statement of Facts Response to Defendant's Statement, # 2 Exhibit 1)(Hardin, Matthew) (Entered: 06/20/2023)
08/03/2023	<u>19</u>	REPLY to opposition to motion re <u>17</u> MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION. (Robertson, L'Shauntee) (Entered: 08/03/2023)
07/25/2024	<u>20</u>	ORDER granting Defendant's <u>17</u> Motion for Summary Judgment. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar–Kotelly on 7/25/24. (lcckk3) (Entered: 07/25/2024)
07/25/2024	<u>21</u>	MEMORANDUM OPINION accompanying <u>20</u> Order. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar–Kotelly on 7/25/24. (lcckk3) (Entered: 07/25/2024)
08/08/2024	22	MOTION for Attorney Fees by INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY RESEARCH. (Attachments: # 1 Declaration of Matthew Hardin, # 2 Declaration of Christopher C. Horner)(Hardin, Matthew) (Entered: 08/08/2024)
08/15/2024	<u>23</u>	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to File Response/Reply as to <u>22</u> MOTION for Attorney Fees by FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION. (Robertson, L'Shauntee) (Entered: 08/15/2024)
08/16/2024		MINUTE ORDER granting Defendant's <u>23</u> Motion for Extension of Time to File Response/Reply as to <u>22</u> MOTION for Attorney Fees. Defendant requests an extension of time to file its response to Plaintiff's <u>22</u> Motion for Attorney Fees. Plaintiff does not oppose this request. This is Defendant's first request for an extension in this matter. And Defendant has informed the Court that the parties are conferring about the

	potential resolution of this matter without further intervention by this Court. Accordingly, the Court GRANTS Defendant's request for an extension and ORDERS Defendant to respond to Plaintiff's <u>22</u> motion on or before SEPTEMBER 24, 2024. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar–Kotelly on 8/16/2024. (lcdf) (Entered: 08/16/2024)
08/16/2024	Set/Reset Deadlines: Defendant to respond to Plaintiff's <u>22</u> motion on or before 9/24/2024. (dot) (Entered: 08/16/2024)