

Good afternoon Mr. Tobias:

Our FOIA office received your FOIA request dated May 21, 2018 and assigned it control number 2018-00847. Please cite this number in any future communications regarding your request.

In your request you asked for the following:

" This requests seeks any documents and written or electronic communications, including attachments, that were sent or received by former BLM communications director Michael Allen and that pertain to the agency's decision to begin sending FOIA requests to political appointees before releasing the results to the public. The agency's decision that I refer too was described in a recent New Yorker article, here: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/05/21/trump-vs-the-deep-state>This request seeks records produced between August 1, 2017 and the date this request is processed. "

We have classified you as an "other-use" requester. As such, we may charge you for some of our search and duplication costs, but we will not charge you for our review costs; you are also entitled to up to 2 hours of search time and 100 pages of photocopies (or an equivalent volume) for free. See 43 C.F.R. § 2.39. If, after taking into consideration your fee category entitlements, our processing costs are less than \$50.00, we will not bill you because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. See 43 C.F.R. § 2.49(a)(1).

We use Multitrack Processing to process FOIA requests. The Simple track is for requests that can be processed in one to five workdays. The Normal track is for requests that can be processed in six to twenty workdays. The Complex track is for requests that can be processed in twenty-one to sixty workdays. The Exceptional/Voluminous track is for requests requiring more than sixty workdays for processing. The Expedited track is for requests that have been granted expedited processing. Within each track, requests are usually processed on a first-in, first-out basis.

This request falls into the *Normal *track.

Even though we normally process requests on a first-in, first-out basis, because of the nature of your request and the circumstances surrounding

this request, we will prioritize and process your request as the records become available.

If you have any questions, please contact us at BLM_WO_FOIA@blm.gov or 202-912-7650. Thank you for your interest in public lands and in programs and activities of the BLM.

[image: Inline image 1]

Washington Office FOIA Coordinators

Bureau of Land Management

Phone: 202-912-7650

Fax: 202-245-0027

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