

EXHIBIT C



Michael Martinez <mmartinez@democracyforward.org>

Fwd: FOIA Request DOC-NOAA-2019-001232 - Democracy Forward

1 message

Sam Ritzman <srizman@democracyforward.org>

Wed, Sep 11, 2019 at 10:38 AM

To: Michael Martinez <mmartinez@democracyforward.org>, Benjamin Link <blink@democracyforward.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mark Graff - NOAA Federal** <mark.graff@noaa.gov>

Date: Wed, Jul 31, 2019 at 7:58 AM

Subject: Re: FOIA Request DOC-NOAA-2019-001232 - Democracy Forward

To: Sam Ritzman <srizman@democracyforward.org>

Cc: FOIA Office - NOAA Service Account <foia@noaa.gov>, Lola Stith - NOAA Affiliate <lola.m.stith@noaa.gov>, Katelyn Szura - NOAA Federal <katelyn.szura@noaa.gov>

Good Morning Mr. Ritzman,

I appreciate your outreach to check the status of this request. After your request was received, on May 13, I show the fee waiver was granted in your request on May 21, 2019. Thereafter, it was tasked to the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for a search to be conducted. I show that search is still ongoing, and has not yet been closed.

We will update you as the request progresses.

NOAA currently has an extraordinarily high volume of requests in queue for processing compared year over year. Some of this is attributable to the earlier spike in the FOIA backlog following the lapse in government appropriations. As such, we expect delays in processing FOIA requests, including yours. In a multi-track FOIA system, where we are required to respond to requests with first-in, first-out processing, one effect of that processing structure is the resulting delays for newer requests while we respond to previously-backlogged requests. We apologize for this delay, and look forward to providing you any non-exempt responsive records as soon as possible. Very best regards,

Mark H. Graff
FOIA Officer/Bureau Chief Privacy Officer (BCPO)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
(301) 628-5658 (O)
(240) 479-0314 (C)

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On Tue, Jul 30, 2019 at 2:50 PM Sam Ritzman <srizman@democracyforward.org> wrote:

Hi Mark, i just left a voice message but thought I'd follow up via email as well.

We submitted a FOIA request on May 13, 2019, with the tracking number DOC-NOAA-2019-001232. We seem to be overdue for a response. Would you be able to provide us with a status update on this FOIA request?

Thank you!

Sam Ritzman
Democracy Forward

On Mon, Jul 29, 2019 at 12:43 PM Sam Ritzman <sritzman@democracyforward.org> wrote:

We submitted a FOIA request on May 13, 2019, with the tracking number DOC-NOAA-2019-001232. We seem to be overdue for a response. Would you be able to provide us with a status update on this FOIA request?

Thank you,

Sam Ritzman
Democracy Forward