



Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

May 9, 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. George Brandsberg
(home address has been deleted)

Dear Mr. Brandsberg:

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (FOI 2013-00950)

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request that you sent to this office requesting the details of an AEC accident in Richland Washington that occurred on March 31, 1959, including the cause, any injuries or deaths, dollar amount of the damage the occurred and some measurement of the radionuclides that escaped.

The enclosed five pages were located. Within the documents, this office has made certain deletions pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA. Exemption 6 provides that an agency may protect from disclosure all personal information if its disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy by subjecting the individuals to unwanted communications, harassment, intimidation, retaliation, or other substantial privacy invasions by interested parties.

In invoking Exemption 6 we considered 1) whether a significant privacy interest would be invaded by disclosure of information, 2) whether release of the information would further the public interest by shedding light on the operations or activities of the government, and 3) whether in balancing the private interest against the public interest, disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy. We have determined that the public interest in the identity of the individuals whose names appear in the documents does not outweigh the individuals' privacy interests.

We conducted a thorough search for any responsive documents. This search was conducted by those within the agency who are most familiar with the subject matter of your request, in locations where documents would most likely be found. Specifically we searched the databases for the Records Holding Area, the facility that maintains and archives Hanford Site records.

All releasable information in the documents has been segregated and is being provided to you. The undersigned individual is responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, as provided in 10 CFR 1004.8, for any information denied to you in this letter. Any such appeal shall be made in writing to the following address: Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals (HG-1), U.S. Department of Energy, L'Enfant Plaza Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20585-1615, and shall be filed within 30 days after receipt of this letter. Should you choose to appeal, please provide this office with a copy of your letter.

Mr. George Brandsberg

-2-

May 9, 2013

For purposes of assessment of fees, you have been categorized under 10 CFR 1004.9(b)(4), as an “other” requester. In this category, you are entitled to two hours of search time and 100 pages of photocopies at no charge. In your request, you stated that you were willing to pay \$50.00. The cost associated with your request is as follows:

Search time – 3 hours @ \$47.16/hour (2 hours free)	Total	\$ 47.16
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Your check of \$47.16 should be sent to my attention at DOE, P.O. Box 550, Richland, Washington, 99352.

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact me at our address above or on (509) 376-6288.

Sincerely,

-Original signed by

Dorothy Riehle
Freedom of Information Act Officer
Office of Communications
and External Affairs

OCE:DCR

Enclosure