

Freedom Of Information Act
Electronic FOIA Request Detail

Request Number: 20150506102559335
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Reasonably Describe Records:

Description: HANFORD NUCLEAR RESERVATION – USDOL Wage Rates and Revision to Laborers' Scope of Work: There was a revision to the Scope of Work established for Group 3 Laborers in 2012 that was incorporated by reference to the Construction Site Agreement [PLA]. Prior to this revision, the footnote [6] for Laborers Group 3 included only "working topman, caulker, collarman, jointer, mortarman, rigger, jacker, shorer, valve or meter installer, tamper." The 2012 revision to Group 3 included the prior language, but added the following sentence to it, as footnote 21, Including pressurized and non-pressurized ductile pipe, gravity pipe and HDPE (fused and non-fused)." [emphasis added.] Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, we are requesting all documents related to this revision. These should include: 1. The letter[s] from the contractor requesting the revision; 2. The request[s] from the DOE Project Manager to the USDOL requesting the revision or "conformance" with respect to the Scope of Work established for Laborers at Hanford. 3. Any forms required under that were filled out or prepared by Contractor[s] such as the SF-1444, Request for Authorization of Additional Classification and Rate inclusive of Block 16 with Employees signatures consenting to the conformance [redactions noted if necessary. 4. Any statements or letters in support of the conformance and/or objecting to it. 5. Any copies of the SF-1444 signed by Project Manager[s] with respect to a request for a "Wage Conformance;" 6. Any statements or letters submitted by the Project Manager supporting or disagreeing with the Wage Conformance/Scope Change request. 7. All emails or other correspondence related to this Scope revision, inclusive of any notes reflecting who was considered to be an "interested party," for the purposes of informing those affected by the adoption of the requested Scope revisions; 8. Any documents (and notes) sent to the DOL in the DOE's possession (or vice-versa) regarding the revisions to the Scope of Work. 9. A list of the data and criteria that was reviewed for accuracy and validation prior to the adoption of this Scope of Work revision by the DOL; 10. Any and all notes taken by the DOE and/or the DOL regarding the steps taken to verify the data that would have been reviewed to adopt this revision and the results of that verification; 11. Any and all notes of meetings and/or telephone conversations between any of the parties affected by this revision. This would include the AFL-CIO, the Laborers International, the UA Plumbers and Pipefitters International, the Project Manager, the DOE and the DOL.

Optional Information:

Describe Yourself: n/a

Cost Information: I request a waiver or reduction of fees.

Waiver Request:

The subject of the request: Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government."

The requested information involves a Request for a Wage Conformance at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in WA, which may not have been completed and implemented in accordance with the governing statutes and policies.

The informative value of the information to be disclosed: Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities.

Disclosure of this information will assist both Public Agencies and Government Contractors in the established procedures for requesting and receiving USDOL Wage Conformances.

The contribution to an understanding by the general public of the subject likely to result from disclosure, taking into account your ability and intent to disseminate the information to the public in a form that can further understanding of the subject matter.

The General Public, especially the residents of the Tri-Cities area in WA, have a vested interest in making sure that the work performed at the Hanford Reservation, in dealing with Nuclear Waste, is performed by workers who are expert in this area.

The significance of the contribution to public understanding: Whether the disclosure is likely to contribute "significantly" to public understanding of government operations or activities.

The disclosure of this information will have a Statewide effect, as well as an effect on the entire USDOL District. The public includes workers on public construction projects and it is critical that they are fully aware of the hazards on these projects.

The existence and magnitude of a commercial interest: Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure, and, if so

REBOUND has no commercial interest in these documents. Our mission is to promote voluntary compliance with Prevailing Wage laws. Our goal in acquiring this information is to make certain that the workforce at Hanford is properly utilized.

The primary interest in disclosure: Whether the magnitude of the identified commercial interest of the requester is sufficiently large, in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester."

We have no commercial interest in this request. Depending on the nature of the response to our request, it may return the cost of certain work at Hanford, to its pre-conformance levels. This would be the only business and government effect.

Waiver Cost Information: n/a

Expedited Processing: an imminent threat to the life or physical safety
n/a

There is a threat to the workers at Hanford, of exposure to Radiation if those workers not fully trained in the treatment of Nuclear Waste Materials. As currently adopted and conformed; the revised Scope of Work may allow this work to be performed by workers lacking these necessary specialized skills.

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