March 31, 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. Anna Clark
Torres Consulting and Law Group, LLC
2239 East Baseline Road
Tempe, Arizona  85283

Dear Ms. Clark:

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (FOI 2015-00871)

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated March 5, 2015, requesting copies of 1) the executed contract for the Ground Water Work Package 53553, 2) Statement and Acknowledgment (SF 1413) for Work Package 53553 and 3) copies of all CH2M Hill Plateau Remediation Company (CHPRC) Change Forms (A-6004-820) for the work package involving CHPRC Job Number 53553-001 with Real Centric Solutions for the Soil & Groundwater Remediation.

In response to Items 1 and 3, according to the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) contract with CHPRC, records relating to any procurement action by the Contractor are the property of the Contractor, with the exception of records that under 48 CFR 970.5232-3, Accounts, Records, and Inspections, are described as the property of the Government. The documents you have requested under Items 1 and 3 relate to a subcontract awarded by CHPRC. Accordingly, the documents do not fall under 48 CFR 970.5232-3 and are not subject to the provisions of the FOIA.

We have conducted a thorough search for any records in the possession of the Government for both of these items (Items 1 and 3) and were unable to locate any. 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 Procurement Division and the Contractor Industrial Relations offices within the DOE Richland Operations Office.

In response to Item 2, the following documents are enclosed: 1) SF 1413 dated June 2, 2014, 2) SF 1413 dated June 20, 2014, and 3) SF-1413 dated May 29, 2014.
Within the SF-1413 dated June 2, 2014, we have deleted a home address 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 does not outweigh the individual’s privacy interests.

As provided by the FOIA, you fall under a fee category which entitles you to two hours of search time and 100 pages of photocopies at no charge. Since costs associated with your request were minimal, there will be no charge for this response.

This letter completes our response to your request. 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 the adequacy of our search or for any information that has been denied to you. 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.

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

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures