

IRmep
Calvert Station
P.O. Box 32041
Washington, DC 20007

<http://www.irmep.org>
info@irmep.org
Phone: 202-342-7325



April 29, 2017

FOIA Officer
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW Mail Stop MA-46
Washington, DC 20585

SCIENTIFIC/EDUCATIONAL/NEWS MEDIA
100 FREE PAGES

RE: DOE emails, calendar entries, memos and all other correspondence related to the provision of "special briefings" about skirting the issue of Israel's nuclear weapons

Dear FOIA Officer,

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

I request copies of all DOE classification briefing correspondence from classification officials charged with implementing WPN-136. WPN-136 is a classification bulletin titled "Guidance on Release of Information Relating to the Potential for an Israeli Nuclear Capability."

It is publicly well-known that Israel has a nuclear weapons program. However, because the objective of WPN-136 is to through the issue into the realm of a "speculative capability" ongoing briefings are required of employees and contractors who already know better. The existence and purpose of this training has been reported in *The Atlantic*:

Doyle's reference to the existence of Israel's nuclear arsenal reflects the consensus intelligence judgment within DOE nuclear weapons-related laboratories, former officials say. But some said they find it so hard to avoid any public reference to the weapons that classification officers periodically hold special briefings about skirting the issue. – **"Israel's Worst Kept Secret: Is Silence over Israeli Nukes doing more Harm than Good?" Douglas Birch and R. Jeffrey Smith, *The Atlantic*, September 16, 2016**

I request waiver of all search fees for this request as a member of the news media who writes frequently about this subject. That may be verified by googling my name and "Israel nuclear weapons." Disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in our commercial interest. I do not, however, request a waiver of duplication costs and agree to pay up to \$75 for photocopies, CDs, PDF generation or other reproduction fees. This request is related to, but does not supplant FOIA HQ-2017-00456-F.

Sincerely,

Grant F. Smith
Director of Research