

**Freedom Of Information Act
Electronic FOIA Request Detail**

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Reasonably Describe Records:

Description: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552) ("FOIA"), Hanford Challenge respectfully requests copies of any and all Problem Evaluation Requests, also known as PERS, dated from January 1, 2018 to the present. The PERS system is used by Hanford contractor Washington River Protection Solutions. This request seeks PERS reports generated at all facilities and areas where WRPS is working. This request only seeks the PERS reports themselves, and not the surrounding records for each PERS at this time. If there is a listing of PERS reports, we also request a copy of that list, which could include a database, table or other such compilation. The term "records" as used in this request is intended to cover documents and data whether maintained in paper, digital or electronic formats and stored on media such as hard drives, smart phones, tape drives, or other such formats. Hanford Challenge specifically requests that you undertake a search of all offices that may be in possession or control of these records at any location where responsive records might reasonably be found. If any records covered by this request have been destroyed and/or removed, or are destroyed and/or removed after receipt of this request, please provide all surrounding records, including but not limited to a list of all records which have been destroyed and/or removed, a description of the actions taken, relevant dates, and individual, office and/or agency-wide policies, and/or justifications for the action(s).

Optional Information:

Describe Yourself: Affiliated with an educational or noncommercial scientific institution, and this request is made for scholarly or scientific purpose and not for commercial use.

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."

We seek records from the DOE relating to the reporting of problems at the Hanford nuclear site, which might include safety, health or other compliance-related issues requiring attention. Investigations of contractor activities at the site, are identifiable operation of the government.

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

The records requested in this FOIA request are not currently in the public domain or otherwise common knowledge among the general public. The requested communications will likely provide necessary insight into the reports filed by employees and others relating to the safety and compliance status of this federal facility. The supporting documents and communications requested will likely add insight into what the federal government (via employees/officials) considers at various stages of the reporting and resolution of safety, health and compliance concerns. It will likely assist in explaining what was and was not important in this particular government operation/activity, which would enhance public understanding of this operation/activity.

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 records requested in this FOIA request are not currently in the public domain. The requested communications will provide necessary insight into the reports filed by employees and others relating to the safety and compliance status of this federal facility. The communications requested will likely aid in explaining the process of how the federal government (DOE) arrived at its positions for deciding resolution pathways for PERS reports. We intend to disseminate these records, and an analysis of the records, to media outlets, congresspersons, post it on our website, etc to get the information to the public.

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 the requested records is likely to contribute 'significantly' to the public understanding of government operations and activities. The release of the requested records are in the public interest and are likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations of the government because these types of records reveal the activities at the Hanford Site, including DOE support of activities relating to employee reports of safety, health and compliance issues at Hanford. The issue has gained Congressional attention, GAO oversight, and media attention over the past 30 years. Hanford Challenge consistently obtains information about Hanford, the cleanup process, the storage of nuclear and chemical waste, etc, and consistently uses its capacity to read, dissect, and share the information in an easily understandable format for the public.

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

Hanford Challenge, a non-profit public interest group, requests this information on behalf of our members and the public. Hanford challenge does not seek this information for a use or purpose that furthers the commercial trade or profit interest. We will not profit from the requested information. We will not receive monetary or other benefits from disclosing the requested information to the public. One of the main purposes of this request is to turn the documents over to the public and the media for no charge so that they may know more about how employee-reported issues at Hanford. We have never received a profit from a FOIA request and will not with this FOIA request.

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."

Hanford Challenge is not requesting the information for any private or commercial purpose and is a non-profit, public interest organization designated as a tax exempt entity under IRS code 501(c)(3). Our interest in the disclosure of these records is for public education, public participation, advocacy for public interest goals, and a more responsive and accountable government that promotes environmental protection and protection of human health and safety.

Waiver Cost Information: I agree to pay \$100

Expedited Processing: n/a
n/a
n/a

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