Green, LindaE

From: Zahra Hirji via iFOIA.org <Zhirji.123648@mail.ifoia.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 02, 2017 10:23 AM
To: FOIA HQ
Subject: Public Records Request
Attachments: FOIA_blueteam_8_2.pdf

Reply ABOVE THIS LINE

Dear FOIA Officer:

Attached is a formal request for public records. Please feel free to contact me at this email address or at (310) 307-3838 with any questions.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Zahra Hirji

This message was sent via iFOIA.org. If you have questions about iFOIA, please refer to the About page or email ifoia-help@rcfp.org.

This message was sent via iFOIA.org.

Larry Gottesman
National Freedom of Information Officer
(2822T)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 566-1667

Zahra Hirji
BuzzFeed News
989 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
(202) 352-0557

Dear Mr. Gottesman, or to whom it may concern,

I am requesting under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552 for records of all Environmental Protection Agency staff's correspondences relating and/or referring to Administrator Scott Pruitt's "blue team" exercise to discuss climate science. The date range for this request is February 17, 2017, Pruitt's first day in office, and the date the search for responsive records is processed.

I also request any and all records in possession of the EPA that mentions or refers to Scott Pruitt's "blue team" exercise.

Please be sure to search for and include all responsive records that memorialize and document EPA discussions of the "blue team" exercise. These documents would include but would not be limited to emails, text messages, instant chats (Gchat, Skype) memoranda, analyses, reports, data, data compilations, literature, research, studies, summaries and similar materials.

The FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 amended the FOIA as follows (5 USC 552(a)(8)):

(A) An agency shall—
(i) withhold information under this section only if—
(I) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption described in subsection (b); or
(II) disclosure is prohibited by law; and
(ii) (I) consider whether partial disclosure of information is possible whenever the agency determines that a full disclosure of a requested record is not possible; and
(II) take reasonable steps necessary to segregate and release nonexempt information.

EPA should not fail to meet the requirements of Section 552(a)(8) when processing my request and release responsive records to me in full or at least in part.

By seeking request of these communications and related materials, I am making this request on behalf of BuzzFeed News and the records disclosed relating to this request will be used in my reporting for sharing with the general public.

Please waive all fees tied to this request because it is being made in the public interest. I am willing to pay up to $25 and ask that I be contacted if the response to this request will cost more.

I also request that the records be provided in electronic form, to the extent that this is possible, and that any questions about this request are provided by phone or email. My contact information is Zahra.Hirji@buzzfeed.com and (202) 352-0557.

Sincerely,
Zahra Hirji
Reporter, BuzzFeed News