



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 18, 2024

Joe Thomas
Government Accountability & Oversight
30 N. Gould Street, #12848
Sheridan, WY 82801

Via email: joe@govoversight.org

Re: HQ-2024-02097-F

Dear Mr. Thomas:

This is the final response to the request for information that you sent to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. You requested the following:

copies of 1) any LNG export study transmitted by the National Energy Technology Lab to the Office of Fossil Energy between January 1, 2023 and October 31, 2023, and 2) the email(s) transmitting the document(s) from NETL to, inter alia, OFF. To assist your search, on information and belief we suggest that recipients of the NETL email(s) transmitting the document to OFF likely include Amy Sweeney and/or Ryan Peay. If there is no record on the Department's backend logs/system that Ms. Sweeney or Mr. Peay were recipients of the described records, DoE's OFF and/or NETL personnel are the experts on the custodianship of responsive records. We suggest the former include OFF's Brad Crabtree, but also Deputy Secretary David Turk and Undersecretary David Crane; the latter likely but not certainly include James Littlefield, Gregory Cooney, and/or Timothy Skone.

Your request was assigned to DOE's Office of the Secretary (S), Office of the Under Secretary (US), and the Office of Fossil Energy & Carbon Management (FECM) to conduct a search of their files for records responsive to your request. DOE started its search on June 10, 2024, which is the cut-off date for responsive records. DOE has completed its search but did not locate any documents responsive to your request.

DOE understands your request to only be seeking a final LNG export study like those noted in Footnote 1 of your request and ready for release for the public's view. DOE did not find a final LNG export study in its search.

Therefore, pursuant to Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 1004.4(d), I am unable to provide any responsive records for S, US, or FECM. Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.7(b)(2), I am responsible for the determination that no responsive records exist in S, US, or FECM.



The adequacy of this search may be appealed within 90 calendar days from your receipt of this letter pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8. Appeals should be addressed to Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, HG-1, L'Enfant Plaza, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-1615. The written appeal, including the envelope, must clearly indicate that a FOIA appeal is being made. You may also submit your appeal to OHA.filings@hq.doe.gov, including the phrase "Freedom of Information Appeal" in the subject line. (This is the method preferred by the Office of hearings and Appeals.) The appeal must contain all of the elements required by 10 C.F.R. § 1004.8, including a copy of the determination letter. Thereafter, judicial review will be available to you in the Federal District Court either: (1) in the district where you reside; (2) where you have your principal place of business; (3) where DOE's records are situated; or (4) in the District of Columbia.

You may contact DOE's FOIA Public Liaison, Alexander Morris, FOIA Officer, Office of Public Information, at FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov or by mail at MA-46/Forrestal Building 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20585 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202- 741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

The FOIA provides for the assessment of fees for the processing of requests. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(i); see also 10 C.F.R. § 1004.9(a). In your request, you agreed to pay all applicable fees for the processing of your request. For purposes of assessment of any fees, you have been categorized under the DOE regulation that implements the FOIA at Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 1004.9(b)(3) as a "news media" requester. Requesters in this category are charged fees for duplication only and are provided 100 pages at no cost. Therefore, no fees will be charged for processing your request.

If you have any questions about the processing of the request, you may contact Susan Plant at Susan.Plant@hq.doe.gov or myself, in this office at:

MA-46/Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585
FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov

I appreciate the opportunity to assist you with this matter.

Sincerely,

**RICHARD
HAYES**

Digitally signed by
RICHARD HAYES
Date: 2024.10.18
09:08:56 -04'00'

Alexander C. Morris

FOIA Officer

Office of Public Information

Enclosures