



July 16, 2021

Freedom of Information Officer
NNSA Service Center
Office of Public Affairs
P.O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400

FOIA Request for Plutonium Aging Research Plan, Due to Congress around June 27, 2021

To Whom it Concerns:

This is a request filed under the Freedom of Information Act, as amended. Per applicable law and Department of Energy regulations, I anticipate a response to this request within 20 days. If the requested documents are not provided within 20 days please provide the reason why and give a date by which they will be provided to me.

This request is being filed on behalf of Savannah River Site Watch (SRS Watch), a corporation duly registered with the State of South Carolina and a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In addition to many FOIAs filed on behalf of SRS Watch, I have filed many FOIA requests with DOE on behalf of other non-profit organizations, including Friends of the Earth, the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, Greenpeace and the Nuclear Control Institute.

I request that any fees that may be associated with this request be waived. The information obtained in response to this request will be used solely for non-profit purposes in South Carolina and the United States. The information will contribute to the public's understanding of the manner in which DOE's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) conducts its business and will specifically be used to inform the public about plans concerning plutonium pit production at the Savannah River Site and Los Alamos National Lab and research into lifetime of existing pits. Over the years, I have demonstrated an ability to use information gathered via FOIA requests in a manner so as to educate the public about DOE and issues it is addressing. I request that the fee-waiver standard that has been applied to my requests in the past be applied to this request.

If any claim is made that any portion of any located documents are sensitive in nature or meet FOIA exclusions, I request that redacted copies of such documents be provided to me and that a full explanation be provided as to the reasons for any redactions. I request that documents



be provided to me as they become available to DOE staff and that the documents not be withheld until all pertinent documents are obtained.

This request applies to the US Department of Energy, DOE's National Nuclear Security Administration and any contractor that may have worked on the requested documents.

As the consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2021 was signed into law on December 27, 2020, the requested document was to have been delivered to Congress around June 27, 2021 and thus should exist. If the document does not exist, contrary to direction from Congress, I request that it be provided to me once it is completed and delivered to Congress.

See the "DIVISION D-ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021," that accompanied the final Appropriations Act for FY 21:

Pit and Plutonium Aging.-There is concern with the apparent lack of focus on advancing knowledge regarding pit and plutonium aging since the JASONS conducted its first study in 2006. Given the future needs of the nation's nuclear deterrent, a robust program of research and experimentation is needed. Therefore, NNSA is directed to develop a comprehensive, integrated ten-year research program for pit and plutonium aging that represents a consensus program among the national laboratories and federal sponsors. Such a plan shall include estimated cost of ongoing research, new or upgraded capability needs, and key near-, mid-, and long-range milestones. The plan shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act. (page 108, attached)

(See above at <https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Division%20D%20-%20Energy%20and%20Water%20Statement%20FY21.pdf>)

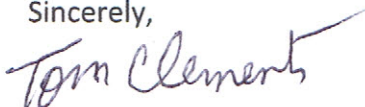
I hereby request:

The "comprehensive, integrated ten-year research program for pit and plutonium aging" plan that was required to be submitted to Congress by NNSA 180 days after the entrance into law of the Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2021, or on approximately June 27, 2021;

Any attachments to the requested pit and plutonium aging plan.

Please get in touch if you have questions about this request. I thank you for your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Tom Clements

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