

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

)	
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY)	
PROJECT,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	Civil Action No. 19-0449 (RDM)
)	
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF)	
STATE, <i>et. al.</i> ,)	
)	
Defendant.)	
)	

DEFENDANT’S STATUS REPORT

Defendants Department of State (“State” or the “Department”) and the Department of Energy (“DOE”), by and through undersigned counsel, respectfully provides the Court with the following status update:

1. Pursuant to the Court’s April 9, 2021 Order, on October 29, 2021, the State Department reported having processed 596 responsive pages during the month of October. State released three records in part in a production that totaled 291 pages. Additionally, the Department processed one record, totaling 305 pages, that it sent to the department of Defense for their review and direct response to Plaintiff. Of the three records released in part, 278 pages within those records were withheld in full pursuant to FOIA exemption 4, 5 U.S.C. §§ 552 (b)(4), and five pages were withheld in part pursuant to FOIA exemptions 5 and 6, 5 U.S.C. §§ 552 (b)(5) and (b)(6). The pages processed and released were responsive to the following filter terms within the Department’s Office of the Executive Secretariat searches (“S/ES Searches”) and non-S/ES searches: IP3; Christopher w/2 Ford AND ((Saudi w/25 nuclear) OR Westinghouse); Sean w/2 Oehlbert AND ((Saudi w/25 nuclear) OR Westinghouse); Peter w/2 Navarro AND ((Saudi w/25 nuclear) OR Westinghouse); Jared w/2 Kushner AND ((Saudi w/25 nuclear) OR Westinghouse); (Mike OR Michael) w/2 Flynn

AND ((Saudi w/25 nuclear) OR Westinghouse); and Gary w/2 Cohn AND ((Saudi w/25 nuclear) OR Westinghouse). The remaining unclassified records responsive to the filter terms used in the S/ES searches have been sent to other agencies for consultation. The Department will continue to process material responsive to the filter terms used in the non-S/ES searches while it awaits responses to those external consultations.

2. The State Department anticipates processing an additional 500 responsive pages and releasing non-exempt material to Plaintiff on or before November 30, 2021.

3. Since its last update, the U.S. Department of Energy processed more than 600 pages and produced the responsive, non-exempt portions therein on October 29, 2021. Portions of those pages contained equities from the U.S. International Trade Administration (“ITA”) and State and those equities were transferred to ITA and State for review and release. The Export Import Bank of the United States reports that it made a production of its previously transferred equities on October 12, 2021.

4. CIA proposes the following renewed briefing schedule:

- Renewed Partial MJS due February 2, 2022
- Opposition due March 2, 2022
- Reply due March 29, 2022

5. Defendants will file its next status report on December 3, 2021.

