



ascrfoia
 <ascrfoia@ascr.usda.gov>
 06/28/2011 12:03 PM

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To "foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov"
 <foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov>
 cc
 bcc
 Subject FW: FOIA request for information

REGGIE
 BRS
 Individual

Dear Ms. Woods>.

The Office of Civil Rights received the FOIA request below in its ascrfoia email box. Please review the email below and let me know whether the requested should be referred to your Agency.

Thanks,

Samantha Y. Wiggins, FOIA Specialist
 Office of Adjudication
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
 E-mail: Samantha.Wiggins@ascr.usda.gov
 Voice: 202-720-7569

"You're not obligated to win. You're obligated to keep trying to do the best you can every day."-- Marian Wright Edelman

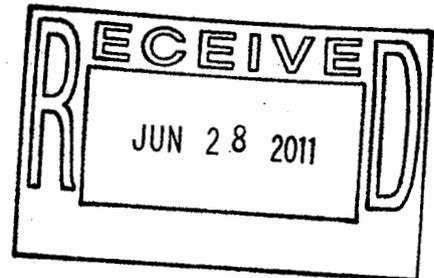
JUL 27 2011

-----Original Message-----

From: Jennifer Kuzma [mailto:kuzma007@umn.edu]
 Sent: Friday, May 06, 2011 11:28 AM
 To: ascrfoia
 Subject: FOIA request for information

May 6, 2011

Mr. Michael G. Watts
 Director
 USDA Office of Civil Rights
 1400 Independence Avenue, SW
 Washington, DC 20250-9410



Dear Mr. Watts,

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I am requesting access to USDA opinion letters on the regulatory status of plants or plant products developed using: targeted mutagenesis via zinc finger nuclease technology; site-specific gene repair oligonucleotide technology; meganuclease technology; and transcription activator-like effector nucleases (TALENs). Please include within this request any USDA opinion letters on the regulatory status of plants or plant products resulting from the following companies' methods: Cibus' method called rapid trait development system (RTDS); Keygene's method called KeyBase; and Dow's zinc finger technology called Exzact. The time period applicable to these records should be within the last 10 years.

Please consider my FOIA request for expedited processing, as the potential significance of these regulatory actions for genetically engineered organism oversight justifies the urgency to inform the public of these actions. I am representing an educational institution in this request, the University of Minnesota, and this request is

likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations and activities of the Government. Please supply the records without informing me of the cost if the fees do not exceed \$50, which I agree to pay.

If you deny any part of this request, please cite each specific exemption that you rely on to justify your refusal to release the information and notify me of appeal procedures available under the law.

If you have any questions concerning this request, you may contact me via email or at the following telephone

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Kuzma
Associate Professor
Humphrey School of Public Affairs
University of Minnesota
301 19th Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

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Jennifer Kuzma, Ph.D.

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