



United States
Department of
Agriculture

January 6, 2011

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Read D. Porter
Environmental Law Institute
2000 L Street, NW
Suite 620
Washington, DC 20036

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Legislative and
Public Affairs

Dear Mr. Porter:

Freedom of
Information

This is in response to your October 5, 2010, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for all records concerning special needs requests submitted to APHIS pursuant to the Plant Protection Act (PPA) by any state, tribe, territory, or group of states, or other jurisdictions. This request includes various other related records. Your request was received in this office on October 6, 2010, and assigned case number FOIA 11-012. We apologize for the delay in processing this request.

4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
20737-1232

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and located 130 pages of responsive records to your request. Portions of information has been withheld under Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) of the FOIA. Exemption 6 permits the Government to protect from disclosure information that would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The release of this information will not shed any light on Government operations. Specifically, we have withheld the names and signatures of private company and various associations' employees from the enclosures.

You may appeal our partial denial of records. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be received within 45 days of the date of this letter to:

Administrator
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Ag Box 3401
Washington, DC 20250-3401

Please refer to FOIA 11-012 in your appeal letter and add the words "FOIA Appeal" to the front of the envelope. To assist the Administrator in reviewing your appeal, provide specific reasons why you believe modification of the determination is warranted.

Because the cost to process your request was less than \$25.00, the fee has been waived. If you have any questions, please contact

Tonya Woods
Director
Freedom of Information & Privacy Act
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosure



Safeguarding American Agriculture
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