



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Legislative and
Public Affairs

Freedom of
Information

4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
20737-1232

JAN 08 2010

Aleah Sato
Animal Defense League of Arizona
P.O. Box 33093
Phoenix, AZ 85067

Dear Ms. Sato:

This is a response to your November 13, 2009, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for all records generated, received, obtained, or created by or for any office of the USDA that in any way relate to, concern, regard, or refer to the Bear Country USA facility in Rapid city, SD, and all trade, import, export, or business related to said facility. Your request was received in this office on November 13, 2009, and assigned FOIA case number 10-084.

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and located 25 pages of responsive records which are contained on the enclosed CD-ROM. However, information has been withheld under FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). This exemption protects information from disclosure when its release would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The same information has been withheld pursuant to FOIA Exemption 7(C), 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(C). This exemption protects from disclosure records or information collected for law enforcement purposes when its release could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Identities of various federal employees have been withheld along with personally identifiable information, such as third party names, signatures, phone number, addresses, social security numbers, and date of births.

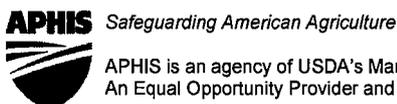
Please be advised that the inspection reports you have requested are available on our Animal Care website at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/inspection_list.shtml under licensee Bear Country U.S.A., Customer # 5015, License #46-C-0005. In the future, you need not send a FOIA request for information that is publicly available.

Additionally, we have been informed by Investigative and Enforcement Services (IES) that the records involved in the case SD06013-AC concerning Kevin Casey, DBA Bear Country U.S.A., pursuant to your FOIA request were destroyed on September 29, 2009.

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

Administrator
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Ag Box 3401
Washington, D.C. 20250-3401

Please refer to FOIA 10-084 in your appeal letter and add the words "FOIA Appeal" to the front of the envelope. To assist the Administrator in reviewing your appeal, please provide specific reasons why you believe modification of this initial determination is warranted.



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Aleah Sato
FOIA 10-084

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Because the cost to process your request is less than \$25.00, the fees have been waived. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kacie Edwards of my staff at (301) 734-5385.

Sincerely,

for 
Celeste Camp

Acting Director
Freedom of Information & Privacy Act
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosures