



March 18, 2011

United
States
Department
of
Agriculture

J. Scott Thenell
Thenell & Associates, LLC
1181 Keaveny Court
Walnut Creek, CA. 94597-2465

Marketing
and
Regulatory
Programs

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request # 11-089

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Dear Mr. Thenell:

Legislative
and Public
Affairs

This is in response to your November 18, 2010, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for: Opinion letters or other correspondence prepared by APHIS-BRS concerning the regulatory status under 7 CFR Part 340 of plants or plant products developed using zinc finger nuclease technology; site-specific gene repair oligonucleotide technology; or directed nucleotide editor meganuclease technology for targeted mutagenesis. Your request was received in this office on November 18, 2010, and assigned case number FOIA 11-089. We apologize for the delay in processing this request.

Freedom of
Information

4700 River
Road
Unit 50
Riverdale,
MD 20737-
1232

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and located the enclosed seven pages of responsive records to your request. 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 release of this information will not shed any light on Government operations. Specifically, we have withheld the name of an employees or representatives of organizations.

You may appeal our partial denial and findings of no additional 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, DC 20250-3401

Please refer to FOIA 11-089 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 Mr. Robbie Perry of my staff at (301) 734-8696.

Sincerely,

Tonya Woods
For: Tonya Woods
Director

Freedom of Information & Privacy Act
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosures



Safeguarding American Agriculture
APHIS is an agency of USDA's Marketing and Regulatory Programs
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