



United States
Department of
Agriculture

August 18, 2011

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Alice Roach

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Dear Ms. Roach:

Legislative and
Public Affairs

This is in response to your April 6, 2011, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for various identified biotechnology notification and permit filings. Your request was received in this office on April 6, 2011, and assigned case number FOIA 11-389. We apologize for the delay in processing your request.

Freedom of
Information

4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
20737-1232

Biotechnology Regulatory Services employees conducted a thorough search of their files and the enclosed CD-ROM contains 298 pages of responsive records to your request. However, we have withheld information under FOIA Exemption 4, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). This exemption protects confidential business information (CBI) from disclosure when release would cause substantial harm to the competitive position of an individual, a partnership or a corporation from whom the information was obtained. Some of the records were subject to pre-CBI determination by the organizations and CBI justifications were withheld.

In addition, portions of information has been withheld under Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). 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 identifying information of representatives of the various organizations.

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 11-389 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.

The fees have been waived. If you have any questions, please contact my staff at (301) 734-8296.

Sincerely,


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

Enclosure



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