USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Legislative and Public Affairs

Freedom of Information

4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
20737-1232

October 21, 2010

Mr. Tony Corbo
Food & Water Watch
Suite 300
1616 P Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Corbo:

This is the fifteenth partial response to your March 30, 2009, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to the Food Safety and Inspection Services (FSIS) seeking copies of records pertaining to the applications made by the People's Republic of China for equivalence determinations for all products covered under the Federal Meat Inspection Act, The Poultry Products Inspection Act, and The Egg Products Inspection Act, and the decisions rendered by the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) since January 1, 2000. On March 26, 2010 FSIS referred your request and U.S. Department of Agriculture records to our office for processing. Your request was received in this office on office on March 30, 2010, and assigned case number FOIA 10-341.

With this letter we are providing a CD-ROM containing an additional 198 pages responsive to your request. However, portions of the information is being 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.

You may appeal our partial denial of information or you may hold your appeal in abeyance until your final response is received. However, if you choose to appeal your appeal must be in writing and must be received within 45 days of the date on this letter to the following address:

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

If you choose to appeal, please refer to FOIA 10-341 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.

Also contained on the CD-ROM is a copy of Adobe® Acrobat® Reader™, which is needed to view the responsive records. By opening rp505enu.exe and following the on-screen instructions, you will install Adobe Reader. After the installation, Adobe Reader should render the PDF files correctly.

During our review, we determined that sections of the documents originated with other agencies and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service does have the authority to release other Federal Agency documents. Therefore, by copy of this letter, we are referring those sections to the appropriate agencies for release determination and direct response to you. To check the status of each agencies response, please contact that agency directly, their contact information is below.

Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
Director, FOI Staff
5600 Fishers Lane (HFI-30)
Rockville, MD 20857
(301) 827-6567
(301) 443-1726(fax)
Attn: Frederick J. Sadler

Office of the United States
Trade Representative (USTR)
FOIA Officer
Second Floor
1724 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20508
(202) 395-3419
(202) 395-9458(fax)
Attn: Jacqueline Caldwell

Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)
FOIA Officer
Room 5074-South
Ag Stop 1004
Washington, D.C. 20250-1004
(202) 690-4064
(202) 720-1727(fax)
Attn: Sally Klusaritz

Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS)
FOIA Officer
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C. 20250
(202) 690-3882
Attn: Jeff Ovall

Department of Agriculture
Office of the Secretary (OSEC)
Departmental FOIA Officer
Room 405 W, Whitten Building
Washington, D.C. 20250-1300
(202) 720-0664
Attn: Courtney L. Wilkerson

If you have any questions regarding the continued processing of your request, please do not hesitate to contact Tamara Wade at (301) 734-5268.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure

cc: Frederick J. Sadler, FDA
Jacqueline Caldwell, USTR
Sally Klusaritz, FAS
Jeff Ovall, FSIS
Courtney L. Wilkerson, OSEC