



File Code: 6270-1
08-3578-R (LEI/AQM)
Date: November 7, 2007

Mr. Jeff Ruch
Public Employees for Environmental
Responsibility (PEER)
2000 P Street, NW, Suite 240
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Ruch:

This letter is our response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated October 29, 2007. Your request was received in our Washington Headquarters Office FOIA Service Center on October 30, 2007.

You requested records "concerning the reported recent purchase of 700 taser weapons . . . by the U.S. Forest Service. . . ." Specifically, you requested the following:

1. "Records relating to the amount that the Forest Service will pay for these tasers;"
2. "The decision documents that were used to justify the purchase of electronic taser weapons; and"
3. "Information describing the training that will be provided to agency personnel who will be issued tasers."

In response to items 1-2 above, enclosed in entirety are 6 pages consisting of: order for supplies or services from GSA schedule contract GS-07F-8940D, justification statement, oracle procurement requisition, and Aardvark invoice.

In response to item 3 above, no records were found responsive to your request. The FOIA does not require agencies to provide information or answers to questions. However, outside of the FOIA, and in the interest of customer service, we can tell you that the Forest Service is currently developing the required training which agents and law enforcement officers will be required to attend prior to the issuance of, or authorization to carry or use, an Electronic Control Device.



The FOIA provides you the right to appeal my no records determination. Any appeal must be made in writing to the Chief, USDA, Forest Service, Mail Stop 1143, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1143, and received by the Chief within 45 days from the date of this letter. The term "FOIA APPEAL" should be placed in capital letters on the front of the envelope or on the subject line of an email to wo_foia@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Twiss". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

JOHN C. TWISS

Director

Law Enforcement and Investigations