

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FOR)	
ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	Civil Action No. 17-1374 (CKK)
)	
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF)	
AGRICULTURE,)	
)	
Defendant.)	

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Defendant United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) jointly with Plaintiff Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (“PEER”), by and through undersigned counsel, hereby respectfully submit this joint status report pursuant to the Court’s April 13, 2018 Order. After meeting and conferring, the parties respectfully report to the Court as follows:

1. USDA’s processing of records responsive to PEER’s Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) request is ongoing. Specifically, USDA has located approximately 712,957 pages of potentially responsive records. In addition, although it does not currently have an estimated page count, USDA has located approximately 7,600 potentially responsive emails which have approximately 12,500 attachments.

2. As previously reported, USDA anticipates that it is able to process the potentially responsive records at a rate of 500 pages per month, with rolling releases made on the first business day of each month. Consistent with that schedule, to date USDA has processed approximately

8,110 pages and has referred approximately 8,318 additional pages to the National Resources Conservation Service for processing.

3. USDA still anticipates that it will be able to process the remainder of potentially responsive documents at the rate of 500 pages per month, with rolling releases made on the first business day of each month.

4. In light of the foregoing, the parties respectfully request that they be permitted to file a joint status report on or before September 14, 2018, to further update the Court concerning the status of the processing of Plaintiff's FOIA request.

Dated: June 14, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

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