Please find attached a notice pertaining to your recent Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.
VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Jarrett Skorup
Mackinac Center for Public Policy
P.O. Box 568
Midland, Michigan 48640

Dear Mr. Skorup,

This notice responds to your March 30, 2016, email (copy attached), received by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on March 31, 2016, requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), MCL 15.231 et seq.

You have requested information that you describe as:

- All emails from Jan. 1, 2013 to Jan. 1, 2016 from employees Liane Shekter-Smith and Stephen Busch which contain the word “Flint.”
- The names of any employees transferred, reassigned, or suspended as a result of the Flint water issues.
- The current job titles for the employees mentioned above, including Liane Shekter-Smith and Stephen Busch. If you do not have the current job title, I am requesting the department the above employees were transferred to.

The tracking code is: FOIA 3064-16

To determine the extent of responsive information, inquiry must be made of the appropriate division(s) of the DEQ. Therefore, it is necessary to extend the time for response, as permitted by section 5(2)(d) of the FOIA, MCL 15.235(2)(d), through April 21, 2016.

The DEQ receives thousands of FOIA requests annually and many of those request a waiver of fees. The DEQ will issue a fee waiver for the first $20.00 of the fee, as required under the FOIA, for an individual who submits an affidavit that he or she receives public assistance or states facts showing an inability to pay the cost because of indigency. Although a majority of the DEQ FOIA requests pertain to records that may be considered as primarily benefitting the general public, the DEQ does not waive, reduce, or exempt the fee solely on the basis of benefit to the public. The DEQ must utilize its monies and resources, entrusted to us by the taxpayers, in the most efficient manner possible to carry out our mission. The DEQ Special Projects FOIA Coordinator has denied your request for a waiver of fees.

The DEQ’s website contains the policy and procedures, public written summary, and several online databases.

Karen Edlin, Special Projects FOIA Coordinator
DEQ
517-284-6856/degfoia@michigan.gov

Attachment

The DEQ strives to continually improve its customer service to FOIA requestors. To provide input for improvements to the FOIA process, please complete this survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s/foiaprocres
Please see the attached request and acknowledge that you have received.

Jarrett Skorup

Digital Engagement Manager
Policy Analyst
Mackinac Center for Public Policy
140 W. Main St., P.O. Box 568
Midland, MI 48640
Phone: 989-631-0900

www.MichiganCapitolConfidential.com
Attention: Michigan DEQ FOIA Coordinator

March 30, 2016

FOIA REQUEST FOR EMPLOYEE EMAILS

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Michigan compiled Laws Section 15.231 et seq., and any other relevant statutes or provisions of your agency’s regulations I am making the following Freedom of Information Act request.

- All emails from Jan. 1, 2013 to Jan. 1, 2016 from employees Liane Shekter-Smith and Stephen Busch which contain the word “Flint.”
- The names of any employees transferred, reassigned, or suspended as a result of the Flint water issues.
- The current job titles for the employees mentioned above, including Liane Shekter-Smith and Stephen Busch.
  - If you do not have the current job title, I am requesting the department the above employees were transferred to.

Please send the materials requested to the attention of Jarrett Skorup at the following address, fax number, or via e-mail at skorup@mackinac.org.

Mackinac Center for Public Policy
P.O. Box 568
Midland, MI 48640
Fax: 989-631-0964
Phone: 989-698-1908

Since the Mackinac Center for Public Policy is a non-partisan, non-profit research and educational institute, we request that these documents be provided without charge pursuant to Section 4(1) of the Freedom of Information Act.

If you elect to charge fees please notify me of the cost prior to filling this request. If any of this request is denied, please specify all the legal exemptions which you believe justify your withholding of the information. I further request that these reasons identify which document or portion of a document is not provided.

Your prompt attention to this Freedom of Information request is appreciated.

Respectfully,

Jarrett Skorup
Policy Analyst
Mackinac Center for Public Policy