



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

September 18, 2020

Mr. Austin Evers
American Oversight
1030 15th Street, NW
Suite B255
Washington, D.C. 20005

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request EPA-HQ-2019-003493

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter concerns the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act request received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on February 14, 2019, which requested “all records reflecting communications between any political appointees at your agency and any employee or representative of Ballard Partners.”

A search of the EPA’s Office of the Administrator and other offices for records responsive to your request produced nineteen pages of responsive records. Portions of these records are being withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), Personal Privacy Information. The portions of records are exempt from disclosure because they contain personal information which would and/or could be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if released.

This letter concludes our response to your request. You may appeal this final response with an email to hq.foia@epa.gov, through FOIAonline if you are an account holder or by writing to:

National FOIA Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2310A)
Washington, D.C. 20460

Please note that only correspondence mailed through the U.S. Postal Service can be delivered to the address above. If you would like to deliver your appeal in person, via courier service or via an overnight delivery service, you must address your correspondence to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 5315, Washington, D.C. 20460.

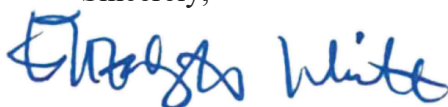
Your written appeal must be received no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter and should include the request number listed above. The EPA will not consider appeals received after the 90-calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5 p.m. Eastern time will be considered as having been received the next business day. For the quickest possible handling, the subject line of your email or the appeal letter and its envelope should be marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.”

Additionally, you may seek dispute resolution services from EPA’s FOIA public liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or (202) 566-1667 or from the Office of Government Information Services. You may contact OGIS with an email to ogis@nara.gov; by calling (202) 741-5770 or (877) 684-6448; with a fax

to (202) 741-5769; or by mail to Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8610 Adelphi Road, Room 2510, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001.

If you have any questions about this response, please contact Christopher Yarbrough at (202) 564-5290 or yarbrough.christopher@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth B. White
Director

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Rebecca Benn
Sent: Wed 11/29/2017 7:17:48 PM
Subject: Meeting Request/US Sugar

Hi Ryan – It has been too long since we've gotten together. Let's get something on the books soon. Representatives of US Sugar will be in town Mon/Dec 4th and Tues/Dec 5th and would like the opportunity to briefly meet with you to introduce themselves and their issues if you have any availability. I appreciate you considering this request, and please let me know if you need anything else on my end. I can be reached via email or mobile Ex. 6 at any time.

Take care,

Rebecca

Rebecca Benn

BALLARD | PARTNERS

Ballard Partners

601 Thirteenth St, NW, Suite #200 N
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6
F: 202.800.5623

rebecca@ballardfl.com

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Rebecca Benn
Sent: Tue 6/6/2017 2:14:35 PM
Subject: Congratulations & New Info

Hi Ryan – Congratulations on your new(ish) position...I can't wait to hear what the transition has been like!

I wanted to let you know that I left CSX a few months ago and recently joined Ballard Partners. My new contact info is below, and I look forward to working together again. Let me know if you have any free time to grab coffee or a beer.

Take care,

Rebecca

Rebecca Benn

BALLARD | PARTNERS

Ballard Partners

601 Thirteenth St, NW, Suite #200 N
Washington, DC 20005
Ex. 6
F: 202.800.5623

rebecca@ballardfl.com

Appointment

From: Shanna Crawley [skcrawley@ballardfl.com]
Sent: 1/26/2018 4:33:49 PM
To: Shanna Crawley [skcrawley@ballardfl.com]; Kelly, Albert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=08576e43795149e5a3f9669726dd044c-Kelly, Albe]
Subject: 5:00 PM (ET): Call with Brian Ballard, Susie Wiles, Dan Jameson and Albert Kelly, EPA
Location: Ex. 6
Start: 1/26/2018 10:00:00 PM
End: 1/26/2018 10:30:00 PM
Show Time As: Busy

Recurrence: (none)

Message

From: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
Sent: 1/25/2018 2:35:38 PM
To: Kelly, Albert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=08576e43795149e5a3f9669726dd044c-Kelly, Albe]
Subject: Good morning ref meeting

Kel (everyone calls you that, so may I?)

My name is Susie Wiles and my partner Brian Ballard and I represent a company who desires a meeting with you regarding a Superfund site in Missouri - West Lake landfill. Republic Services, a PRP, has been working productively with your staff for some time and as the remedy decision is, we believe, imminent, they are requesting a brief audience with you. They have every expectation that a significant remedy program will be recommended but, nevertheless, they wish to be heard.

We are aware that time is of the essence for such a meeting and are hoping Tuesday or Wednesday of next week might be possible for a meeting with you.

I can be reached by email at this address or on my cell at [Ex. 6] and I look forward to hearing back at your earliest convenience.

Thanking you in advance,

Susie Wiles

Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos

Message

From: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
Sent: 1/29/2018 3:05:41 PM
To: Kelly, Albert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=08576e43795149e5a3f9669726dd044c-Kelly, Albe]
Subject: Thank you

Kel,
Thanks so much for the courtesy of Friday afternoon's call. The open communication between EPA and a PRP like West Lake is important and we appreciate the time.
I wanted to provide my cell number since you indicated you would be in touch as appropriate this week. Ex. 6
and my DC office number is Ex. 6
Appreciatively,
Susie Wiles

Susan Summerall Wiles
Partner, Ballard Partners
601 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

Message

From: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
Sent: 3/26/2018 6:24:46 PM
To: Kelly, Albert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=08576e43795149e5a3f9669726dd044c-Kelly, Albe]
Subject: Re: meeting with West Lake on the 29th

Kel,
The West Lake folks are traveling to the meeting on Thursday morning from assorted cities. Any news yet on participants from your side so they will know who to bring?
Thanks,
Susie

Susan Summerall Wiles
Partner, Ballard Partners
601 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

From: "Kelly, Albert" <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Date: Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 6:57 PM
To: Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com>
Subject: RE: meeting with West Lake on the 29th

I will as soon as I know

Albert Kelly
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Ex. 6

From: Susie Wiles [mailto:susie@ballardfl.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2018 6:28 PM
To: Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: meeting with West Lake on the 29th

Kel,
Please see below. For next week's meeting, can you advise who will participate with you in the West Lake meeting?
Many thanks,

Susie Wiles
Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos

From: Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 3:13 PM
Subject: meeting with West Lake on the 29th
To: Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>

Kel,
Can you advise how will be in our meeting – besides you, of course – from EPA?
Thanks much,
Susie

Susan Summerall Wiles
Partner, Ballard Partners
601 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

Message

From: Kelly, Albert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08576E43795149E5A3F9669726DD044C-KELLY, ALBE]
Sent: 3/28/2018 7:00:49 PM
To: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
CC: Falvo, Nicholas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=424ac90ea7d8494a93209d14d37f2946-Falvo, Nich]; Chancellor, Erin [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ae6aeabeca754643bdb01c9f5b653ca6-Chancellor,]; Patterson, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8124081dc0f5490d983dbd6764b0a3f1-KPATTERS]
Subject: RE: Tomorrow's meeting

Thank you. In addition to me I will have Ken Patterson, Nick Falvo and Erin Chancellor. I am not aware of anyone else but will have Nick recheck this. He can also advise on entry and meeting room. Thank you

Albert Kelly
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Ex. 6

-----Original Message-----

From: Susie Wiles [mailto:susie@ballardfl.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 12:55 PM
To: Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Subject: Tomorrow's meeting

Ke1,
Hopeful you know who the participants in tomorrow morning's meeting will be by now.

Please advise- and thanks.

Susie Wiles

Sent from my iPhone
Please excuse typos

Message

From: Kelly, Albert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08576E43795149E5A3F9669726DD044C-KELLY, ALBE]
Sent: 3/7/2018 4:50:16 PM
To: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
Subject: RE: meeting with representatives if West Lake

Come to the North Building and enter on the door near the metro. They will call me to come down and get you in

Albert Kelly
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Ex. 6

From: Susie Wiles [mailto:susie@ballardfl.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 4:54 PM
To: Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: meeting with representatives if West Lake

Kel,
On the 29th of March at 10 for West Lake will be Brian Bales, EVP of Business Development, Dave Call, SVP of Business Development and Dan Jameson, VP of Government and Regulatory Affairs No lawyers. - and me.
Looking forward to seeing you then.

Is there anything we need to do to register for entry or just come to EPA lobby and tell them we are meeting with you?
susie

Susan Summerall Wiles
Partner, Ballard Partners
601 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

From: "Kelly, Albert" <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Date: Monday, March 5, 2018 at 1:23 PM
To: Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com>
Subject: Re: meeting with representatives if West Lake

Ok

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2018, at 10:59 AM, Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com> wrote:

Actually, they're asking for the 29th at 10. Would that work, too?

Susie Wiles

Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos

From: Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 5, 2018 10:29:57 AM
To: Susie Wiles
Subject: Re: meeting with representatives if West Lake

Ok

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2018, at 7:51 AM, Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com> wrote:

That's what the West Lake folks asked for...is that not okay?

Susan Summerall Wiles
Partner, Ballard Partners
601 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

From: "Kelly, Albert" <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Date: Monday, March 5, 2018 at 8:49 AM
To: Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com>
Subject: Re: meeting with representatives if West Lake

28th?

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2018, at 7:48 AM, Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com> wrote:

Could we make the meeting March 28th? Say 10 a.m.?
Thanks,
Susie

Susan Summerall Wiles
Partner, Ballard Partners
601 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

From: "Kelly, Albert" <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Date: Monday, March 5, 2018 at 6:59 AM
To: Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com>
Subject: Re: meeting with representatives if West Lake

I am out 5th, 6th and half of the 7th

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 1, 2018, at 8:46 AM, Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com> wrote:

Any days you won't be in your DC office?

Susie Wiles

Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos

<image002.png>

From: Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 1, 2018 9:36:21 AM

To: Susie Wiles

Subject: Re: meeting with representatives if West Lake

Hi Susie. Just let me know what works and we will be pleased to meet

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 27, 2018, at 8:30 PM, Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com> wrote:

Kel,

I hope you're doing well. When we spoke prior to the announcement of the West Lake remedy, you offered to meet with the representatives from the company. We'd like to take you up on your offer and schedule a meeting with them during this comment period. They have asked for an informal discussion – noting that this will be part of the record – so there can be an exchange of information.

They would be available to come to Washington at your convenience and I am in hopes you can offer a couple of dates when you may be available. Preference is mid week.

Thanks so much for your time. Should you need to reach my by telephone, I can be reached at Ex. 6
Susie

Susan Summerall Wiles

Partner, Ballard Partners
601 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

Message

From: Kelly, Albert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08576E43795149E5A3F9669726DD044C-KELLY, ALBE]
Sent: 1/26/2018 8:01:11 PM
To: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
Subject: RE: 5pm call

I accepted

Albert Kelly
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Ex. 6

From: Susie Wiles [mailto:susie@ballardfl.com]
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2018 1:39 PM
To: Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Subject: 5pm call

Making sure you received the calendar invitation for the call. Participants will be Brian Ballard, me and Dan Jameson from Westlake.

Thank you again so much for making time - I can only imagine how busy you must be.
Best,

Susie Wiles
Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos

Appointment

From: Kelly, Albert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08576E43795149E5A3F9669726DD044C-KELLY, ALBE]
Sent: 1/26/2018 5:27:11 PM
To: Shanna Crawley [skcrawley@ballardfl.com]

Subject: Accepted: 5:00 PM (ET): Call with Brian Ballard, Susie Wiles, Dan Jameson and Albert Kelly, EPA
Location: Ex. 6

Start: 1/26/2018 10:00:00 PM
End: 1/26/2018 10:30:00 PM
Show Time As: Busy

Message

From: Kelly, Albert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08576E43795149E5A3F9669726DD044C-KELLY, ALBE]
Sent: 1/26/2018 1:19:49 PM
To: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
Subject: Re: Good morning

I apologize for not responding yesterday. Wild day. Perhaps we could compare schedules today by phone.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2018, at 6:24 AM, Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com> wrote:

And I'm very much trying to connect and schedule a meeting with you early next week as my email and call of yesterday described.

I'd appreciate a response.

My cell number if you'd rather call is Ex. 6

Susie Wiles

Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos

Message

From: Kelly, Albert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08576E43795149E5A3F9669726DD044C-KELLY, ALBE]
Sent: 2/1/2018 3:37:16 AM
To: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
Subject: Re: announcement about West Lake in St Louis tomorrow?

Hello Susie, I will call you early tomorrow

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 31, 2018, at 12:43 PM, Susie Wiles <susie@ballardfl.com> wrote:

That's what the rumor mill is saying...
Susie

Susan Summerall Wiles
Partner, Ballard Partners
601 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

Appointment

From: Dominguez, Alexander [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=5CED433B4EF54171864ED98A36CB7A5F-DOMINGUEZ,]
Sent: 6/18/2018 5:54:50 PM
To: Schwab, Justin [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=eed0f609c0944cc2bbdb05df3a10aadb-Schwab, Jus]
Subject: Meeting: Ballard Partners
Attachments: RE: Any time for the Tuesday meeting yet?
Location: 5415 WJCN

Start: 6/19/2018 8:00:00 PM
End: 6/19/2018 8:30:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

To: Mandy Gunasekara, Alexander Dominguez, Justin Schwab

Outside Attendees:

Brian Ballard

Susan Wiles

Message

From: Dominguez, Alexander [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=5CED433B4EF54171864ED98A36CB7A5F-DOMINGUEZ,]
Sent: 6/14/2018 8:25:51 PM
To: Susie Wiles [susie@ballardfl.com]
Subject: RE: Any time for the Tuesday meeting yet?

Susie,

You are confirmed for a meeting on Tuesday, June 19th at 4:00PM with Mandy Gunasekara.

Directions and procedures to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW:

Metro: If you come by Metro get off at the Federal Triangle metro stop. Exit the metro station and go up two sets of escalators to the surface level and turn right. You will see a short staircase and wheelchair ramp leading to a set of glass doors with the EPA logo - that is the William Jefferson Clinton Federal Building, North Entrance.

Taxi: Direct the taxi to drop you off on 12th Street NW, between Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues, at the elevator for the Federal Triangle metro stop - this is almost exactly half way between the two avenues on 12th Street NW. Facing the building with the EPA logo and American flags, walk toward the building and take the glass door on your right hand side with the escalators going down to the metro on your left – that is the North Lobby of the William Jefferson Clinton building.

Security Procedures: A government issued photo id is required to enter the building and it is suggested you arrive 15 minutes early in order to be cleared and arrive at the meeting room on time. Upon entering the lobby, the meeting attendees will be asked to pass through security and provide a photo ID for entrance. If you are a foreign national entering on a non-US passport, please let us know in advance, as there is a separate clearance process.

Upon arrival, let the guards know that you were instructed to call Alex Dominguez at (D) 202-564-3164 or (C) Ex. 6 for a security escort.

Please feel free to contact me should you need any additional information and looking forward to meeting you.

Best,
Alex

Alex Dominguez
Policy Analyst to the Principal Deputy
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

From: Susie Wiles [mailto:susie@ballardfl.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 1:38 PM
To: Dominguez, Alexander <dominguez.alexander@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Any time for the Tuesday meeting yet?

No apology necessary - just didn't want you to forget us. Yes, I'll put a hold on the time and wait for your confirmation.

Thanks,
Susie

Susie Wiles
Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos

From: Dominguez, Alexander <dominguez.alexander@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 1:32:43 PM
To: Susie Wiles
Subject: RE: Any time for the Tuesday meeting yet?

Hi Susie – Apologies, I am waiting to get confirmation on Mandy’s travel from our advance team to ensure there are no conflicts and should have that solidified anytime now. I’ve put a hold on Mandy’s calendar for Tuesday, June 19th at 4:00 and if you could do the same that time should work perfectly. I will get you official confirmation by close of business today. Appreciate the patience and will be in touch with you soon.

Best,
Alex

Alex Dominguez
Policy Analyst to the Principal Deputy
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
D: 202-564-3164

Ex. 6

From: Susie Wiles [<mailto:susie@ballardfl.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 1:18 PM
To: Dominguez, Alexander <dominguez.alexander@epa.gov>
Subject: Any time for the Tuesday meeting yet?

Thanks so much,

Susie Wiles
Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos