



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF THE PUBLIC DEBT
PARKERSBURG, WV 26106-5312

July 8, 2011

Judicial Watch
Attn: Matthew Kownacki
425 Third St., SW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Kownacki:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request that was received by the Bureau of the Public Debt (BPD) on June 8, 2011, seeking, "Any and all records concerning, regarding or relating to the possibility that the U.S. Congress will fail to raise the statutory debt limit." You are seeking responsive documents for the period of January 1, 2011 to June 6, 2011.

BPD performed and completed a search for records responsive to your request. BPD has located 172 pages of records that are responsive to your request. Below are BPD's determinations regarding the treatment of the 172 pages of responsive records pursuant to the FOIA.

BPD has determined that five documents, totaling 17 pages, are appropriate for release in full. Copies of those documents are enclosed.

BPD has determined that 155 pages of records are being withheld in full pursuant to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). These records are electronic mail ("e-mail") chains, non-final drafts, working papers, and recommendations which are responsive to your request. These records reflect predecisional deliberations of BPD, Treasury, and/or our consultants, fiscal agents, advisors, and legal counsel. These records reflect intra-agency and inter-agency communications between BPD, Treasury, and/or our consultants, fiscal agents, advisors, and legal counsel regarding a wide range of pre-decisional deliberations related to the scope of your FOIA request. Therefore, these records are protected by the deliberative process privilege, the attorney-client privilege, and/or the attorney work-product privilege.

BPD has reviewed the responsive records and determined that there is no reasonably segregable, non-exempt information.

This is a partial denial of your request. You may appeal this decision within 35 days from the date of this letter. Your appeal must be in writing, signed by you, and should be addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of the Public Debt, Office of Management Services, 200 Third Street, A-5A, Parkersburg, WV 26106. The appeal should specify the date of your initial request and the date of this letter. If possible, please provide a copy of your request and this letter.

Because you are a member of the media, no fees were incurred in processing your request.

Sincerely,

/s/

Denise Nelson
Disclosure Officer
Bureau of the Public Debt
United States Department of the Treasury

Enclosures
cc: Records and Files