To Whom It Concerns:

This is a request filed under the Freedom of Information Act, as amended. Per the applicable law and Department of Energy regulations, I anticipate a response to this request within 20 days.

This request is being filed on behalf of Savannah River Site Watch (SRS Watch), a non-profit corporation registered with the State of South Carolina and a duly registered 501c(3) non-profit organization. While working for SRS Watch, I have filed many FOIA requests with DOE. I have also filed many requests on behalf of other non-profit organizations, including Friends of the Earth, the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, Greenpeace and the Nuclear Control Institute.

I request that any fees that may be associated with this request be waived. The information obtained in response to this request will be used solely for non-profit purposes in South Carolina and the United States. The information will contribute to the public’s understanding of the manner in which DOE and the Savannah River Site (SRS) conducts its business and will specifically be used to inform the public about DOE’s management of SRS. The information obtained via this request will be provided to not only the public but also the media, South Carolina state government officials and the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board (a duly embodied federal advisory panel). Over the years, I have demonstrated an ability to use information gathered via FOIA requests in a manner so as to educate the public about DOE and issues it is addressing. I request that the fee-waiver standard that has been applied to my requests in the past be applied to this request.

If any claim is made that any portion of any located documents and photos are sensitive in nature or meet FOIA exclusions, I request that redacted copies of such documents be provided to me and that a full explanation be provided as to the reasons for any redactions. If the document is marked “Official Use Only” I request that it be released in its entirety.

I request that documents and photos be provided to me as they become available to responsive staff and that the documents not be withheld until all pertinent documents are obtained.

This request applies to DOE and any contractors working for DOE, including Centerra-SRS.
The request is a result of various statements issued by the SRS Office of External Affairs during the Summer of 2016 about alleged overflight of SRS of drones (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles).

The SRS website (http://sro.srs.gov/centerrasrs.html) states this about the role of Centerra-SRS:

Centerra-SRS, a subsidiary of Centerra Group, LLC, is contracted by the U.S. Department of Energy’s Savannah River Operations Office to provide security support services for the 310-square-mile Savannah River Site (SRS), a critical Government nuclear facility. The initial contract went into effect on August 23, 1983.

Centerra-SRS is a paramilitary organization that provides total security services, including access control, property protection, law enforcement, criminal investigations, traffic control, canine explosives and drug detection, aviation support, river patrol, alarm equipment monitoring, and a Special Response Team.

I hereby request:

1. All documents and reports, and attachments, pertaining to drone overflight of SRS during 2016;

2. All photos taken of any drones over SRS during 2016;

3. All document, reports and analyses about the legality of drone overflight over SRS.

Please get in touch if you have questions about this request. Thank you for your timely response.

Sincerely,

Tom Clements
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