



**Department of Energy**  
Strategic Petroleum Reserve Project Management Office  
900 Commerce Road East  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123

February 17, 2009

Mr. William P. Kamachaitis  
President, Information Stronghold  
15511 Barnesville Road  
Boys, MD 20841

Dear Mr. Kamachaitis:

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST NUMBER FI-00140**

This letter is in response to your FOIA request letter dated January 28, 2009 where you are seeking a copy of the 2008 contract awarded by the Department of Energy, Strategic Petroleum Reserve Project Management Office, to ASRC Gulf States Constructors.

An attached copy of the requested contract is provided in this e-mail; however, certain costs and financial information have been extracted from the contract. The redacted information is being withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C.(b)(4), which states "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person are privileged or confidential" are exempt from mandatory public disclosure. Release of these financial figures would permit competitors to scrutinize ASRC Gulf States Constructors business strategies, giving their competitors an unfair advantage. The Department of Energy has therefore determined the withheld information is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to 5 U.S.C.(b)(4).

Pursuant to 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1004.7(b)(2), Mr. Michael McWilliams is the denying official.

Title 10 CFR 1004.8(a) provides that an appeal may be pursued for portions of this letter which constitute a denial to your request. If you desire to appeal, you are directed to the Appeals of Initial Denials Procedures in 10 CFR 1004.8(a). Such an appeal must be made in writing within 30 calendar days of receipt of the denial to the Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20585.

There are no fees associated with the processing of this request. If you need further assistance or have any questions relating to this letter please contact Deanna Harvey at 504-734-4316.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael McWilliams".

Michael McWilliams  
Assistant Project Manager for  
Management & Administration

E-mail attachment