

Ms. Amy Rothrock
Freedom of Information Act Office
P O Box 2001
US Department of Energy
Oak Ridge, TN 37831



submitted at FOIA@oro.doe.gov

24 April 2014
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Dear Ms. Rothrock:

I am writing pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act to request the "Red Team Report" prepared by Dr. Thomas Mason and unnamed other personnel on alternatives for Uranium processing operations at the Y12 Nuclear Weapons Complex in Oak Ridge, TN.

Dr. Mason was appointed by Bruce Held, Acting Director of the National Nuclear Security Administration in January 2014 to lead a "Red Team" to examine alternatives to the Uranium Processing Facility. Dr. Mason led a team which visited Y12, held briefings and meetings, and, on April 15, presented their report to NNSA Administrator Held.

This report, prepared with public funds entirely in secret, has not been released to the public, nor were any members of the public involved in the preparation of the report or the deliberations during its preparation.

The decision-making process the Red Team effort seeks to supplant is a process that includes legally required opportunities for public involvement—the Environmental Impact Statement process recognizes the participation of the public leads to better decisions.

My request is made on behalf of the Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance, a not-for-profit public interest group which has, over the past twenty-five years, built a strong record of public education regarding Department of Energy activities at Oak Ridge. The material sought in this request, the Red Team Report, will be used to inform the public about current plans for the Uranium operations at Y12 and to guide the public's understanding of public expenditures related to the UPF as requested in the budget.

Because this Report should be easily obtained, because it should have been released into the public domain when it was published, because OREPA stands to receive no financial or commercial benefit from this report, and because our use of the report falls clearly within the scope of the waiver considerations in the FOIA, we request a full waiver of any fees associated with this request.

Thank you for your timely consideration of our request. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 865 776 5050 or orep@earthlink.net.

Sincerely,

Ralph Hutchison, coordinator
Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance
P O Box 5743
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

