



December 13, 2010

Office of Information Programs and Services
A/GIS/IPS/RL
U. S. Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20522-8100

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Freedom of Information Act Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, U.S.C. 552, and to the regulations of the U.S. Department of State, Friends of the Earth (FOE), Corporate Ethics International (CEI), and the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) are requesting copies of documents and information regarding all U.S. State Department communications involving the Department of State and Paul Elliott (lobbyist of TransCanada Pipelines).

This request includes but is not limited to copies of all correspondence, letters, memos, briefing papers, faxes, cables, emails, meeting and teleconference agenda, minutes, notes, transcripts, meeting and teleconference attendee lists, dates, or tape recordings and phone logs.

We would appreciate a response to this request as soon as possible. As a non-profit organization, we also request a waiver of all fees incurred in providing these records because the "disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operation or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester" (5 U.S.C. 552 (a)(4)(A) (iii)).

Friends of the Earth, CEI, and CIEL are nonprofit organizations. All of the documents requested are requested in the public interest and have no commercial interest to FOE, CEI, or CIEL. The documents will inform citizens of activities their government plans to ensure their safety and health.

If all or any parts of this request are denied, please cite the specific exemptions on which you rely in refusing to release the documents. Further, since the Freedom of Information Act provides that the remainder of a file must be released if only portions are exempt from disclosure, we request that we be provided with all non-exempt portions that are reasonably segregable.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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