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January 18, 2011

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Public Reference Facility (OFA56)
1315 East West Highway (SSMC3)
Room 10730
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

FOIA REQUEST

Fee waiver requested

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of records indicating how the government scientifically determines which portions of the Gulf of Mexico affected by the BP oil spill are safe to open up to fishing and other economic activity. I also request access to information about the methods government scientists use to monitor the oil levels, the health of the wildlife, the health of sea plants and any additional factors included in their calculation of the Gulf of Mexico's level of safety.

I would like to receive the information in electronic format.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities.
If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Jennie Walters