



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240



JUL 30 2008

Mr. Clay Johnson, III
Deputy Director for Management
Office of Management and Budget

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Enclosed is the Department of the Interior's (DOI) updated status report on the Executive Order deficiency we reported in our FY 2007 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Annual Report. The report describes the steps we have taken, to date, to correct this deficiency.

If you have any questions concerning DOI's report, please contact me at (202) 208-6194. Staff may contact Alexandra Mallus at (202) 208-5342, DOI FOIA Office.

Sincerely,

Michael Howell
Chief FOIA Officer
Chief Information Officer

Enclosure

**Status Report – Department of the Interior FOIA Deficiencies
July 28, 2008**

IV. 1. Goal Area:

Goal I: Improve Customer Service

Objective 2: Improve customer service using customer feedback where appropriate

2. **Milestone:** On-line FOIA request form available for public use by 12/31/07
Delayed due to the fact that DOI has not received approval and/or a response from OMB regarding the status of Interior's form.

Original Target Date: 12/15/06

Extended Date: 12/31/07
(see FY07 annual report and Amended Plan (dated 3/29/07))

3. **Steps completed:**

- Electronic FOIA request form developed 9/12/07.
- After discussions within DOI, with DOJ, & other agencies, form sent to OMB 11/9/07 to determine if clearance under the PRA required.
- Per OMB's conversation with OS Information Collection Officer in mid-December, clearance under the PRA not required. OMB asked to see form DOI proposes to post.
- Form revised per OS Information Collection Officer and resubmitted to OMB 12/18/07 (OMB Contact: Robert Johansson).
- Follow-up email (including form) sent to OMB 1/9/08; 2/19/08, and 6/13/08.
- On June 23, 2008, OMB advised DOI's Chief FOIA Officer that Mr. Johansson was no longer at OMB; OMB to provide new contact for clearance of DOI form.
- As of 7/25/08, a valid OMB contact has not been provided.
- DOI plans to post the form to its FOIA website 4 weeks from the date of this report if it has not received a response from OMB regarding this matter.

4. **Future steps:**

Form will be posted to DOI FOIA website within 4 weeks after receiving approval from OMB or August 26, 2008 whichever comes first.