



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

August 15, 2014

ORIGINALLY SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: Redacting Nonresponsive Conference Call Numbers and Passcodes from Responsive Records

As you know, there is a general rule that when a page of a record contains material responsive to a request (for example, if one page of a three-page email string contains responsive material) then that page must be released in full unless some or all of that page is protected by a FOIA exemption. However, as you may have noticed, Section 10.7(A)(2) of the new FOIA Handbook allows my office to issue written exceptions to this general rule.

Here is such an exception: if the requester has not specifically asked for conference call numbers and passcodes, such conference call numbers and passcodes may be withheld as nonresponsive, even on pages that contain material responsive to the request. You should, however, explicitly note that a redaction of non-responsive material has occurred on the page(s) in question.

Thank you and have a great weekend.

Cindy Cafaro
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Department of the Interior