January 21, 2014

Tim Schwab
Food & Water Watch
1616 P St, NW
Washington, DC 20002
tschwab@fwwatch.org

Re: FOIA 14-020

Dear Mr. Schwab:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request of January 13, in which you requested:

“all records previously made available to David Kocieniewski in 2013 under FOIAs 13-452, 13-439 and 13-187.”

Information responsive to your request is available at the following url:
[URL]. These are public documents numbering 4176 pages.

Portions of the documents have been redacted or withheld pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

- 140/7(1)(a) that exempts from disclosure “Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing adopted under federal or State law.” Specifically, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g) protects the privacy of student education records and prohibits the release of any information from a student’s education record without the consent of the eligible student or parent of the student. In this case, student information was redacted or removed from the responsive records.
- 140/7(1)(b) that exempts from disclosure “Private information, unless disclosure is required by another provision of this Act, a State or federal law or a court order.” This includes email addresses and personal telephone numbers.
- 140/7(1)(c) that exempts from disclosure “Personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information.” This includes personal family and vacation information, student information and personal information relating to private citizens.
- 140/7(1)(f) exempts “preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except
that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.” The responsive documents contain draft documents and preliminary discussions and expressions of opinion regarding the possible policies and actions of the University.

- 140/7(1)(g) that exempts from disclosure “Trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person or business where the trade secrets or commercial or financial information are furnished under a claim that they are proprietary, privileged or confidential, and that or where disclosure of the trade secrets or commercial or financial information would cause competitive harm to the person or business...”

- 140/7(1)(h) of the act, that exempts from disclosure “Proposals and bids for any contract, grant, or agreement, including information which if it were disclosed would frustrate the procurement or give an advantage to any person proposing to enter into a contractor agreement with the body, until an award or final selection is made.”

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to publicaccess@atg.state.il.us, or by postal mail at the Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy
Executive Director
and Chief Records Officer