April 3, 2014

Mr. Ralph Skip Rhodes
Rhodes Works Ltd.
rrhodes@rhodesworksltd.com

Re: FOIA Request 14-120

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request dated March 4, 2014, and received in my office on March 5, 2014, in which you requested:

“…a copy of the evaluation forms and comments that were created by the reviewers of the two proposals submitted by firms in response to the RFP issued by the Institute for Genomic Biology through the Purchasing Division of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The RFP was #1JWS1415 and was to propose a plan and design concept for the design, production, and installation of a museum quality memorial piece of art telling the story of the award winning scientist Carl Woese and his discovery of the third form of life, to be located in the Atrium building of the IGB Complex.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 2 pages.

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

- 140/7(1)(f) that exempts from disclosure “Preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda, and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record of 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 scoring sheet you requested is deliberative in nature and, thus, is being redacted. On numerous occasions the Public Access Counselor has concluded that scoring sheets used to select a vendor fall within the provisions of this section. (See Ill. Att’y Gen. PAC Pre-Auth. 16159, 16151, 15486, 15333, 15364, 14858, and 14851.)

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.
Per 5ILCS 140/9.5(b), you have a right, under the law, to seek a review of your status as a commercial requestor by the Public Access Counselor in the Office of the Attorney General. They 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