

United States of America Railroad Retirement Board Office of General Counsel 844 North Rush Street Chicago, Illinois 60611-1275 Toll Free: 1-877-772-5772 www.rrb.gov

November 20, 2024

Sai MuckRock News DEPT MR 174879 263 Huntington Ave Boston, MA 02115

Delivered electronically

174879-2068449B@requests.muckrock.com

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request dated October 22, 2024

C. 2025-112

Dear Sai:

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated October 22, 2024, to the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) for:

- 1. The one email in your chief FOIA officer's email inbox or equivalent which was received nearest and before October 19, 2024, midnight Eastern time, regardless of subject matter.
- 2. The one email in your chief FOIA officer's email spam folder or equivalent which was received nearest and before October 19, 2024, midnight Eastern time, regardless of subject matter.
- 3. The one email in your chief FOIA officer's sent email folder or equivalent which was sent nearest and before October 19, 2024, midnight Eastern time, regardless of subject matter.
- 4. The total full-time equivalent count of people who work for your FOIA office as of October 19, 2024.

After conducting a search, the RRB located one record responsive to your request. In response to question one of your request, the RRB is releasing one email totaling two pages with partial redactions pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 522(b)(3), (b)(6). Exemption 3 allows for the withholding of information prohibited from disclosure by another federal statute. Under the Railroad Retirement Act, the RRB is generally prohibited from disclosing information that reveals, in any manner, an employee's identity without authorization from that employee. *See* 45 U.S.C. § 362(d); *Ass'n of Retired R.R. Workers v. R. R. Ret. Bd.*, 830 F.2d 331, 334 (D.C. Cir. 1987). Exemption 6 protects information about individuals when disclosure of such information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

The RRB considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing responsive records and applying FOIA exemptions.

Regarding your fourth question, this is a request for information and not for records. While FOIA does not require agencies to answer questions, the following information was reported in the RRB's most recent Annual FOIA Report:

	Component	Full-Time FOIA Employees
Railroad Retirement Board	OIG	1
Railroad Retirement Board	RRB	2

If you need further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please do not hesitate to contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Annie C. Mentkowski, Assistant General Counsel, at EFOIA@rrb.gov.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with RRB's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Secretary of the Board, U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, IL 60611-1275, e-mail at SecretarytotheBoard@rrb.gov. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of the response to your request.

Sincerely, /s/ The Office of General Counsel