March 16, 2015

Ginger McCall
Electric Privacy Information Center
1718 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20009

RE: 2015-STFO-027

Dear Ms. McCall:

This letter is to advise you of further action taken on your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Science and Technology Directorate dated October 20, 2014. You requested 1) all requests for proposal, contracts, grant allocations, and statement of work for performing field-testing operations; 2) all technical specifications for data retention from sensors (and combinations of sensors) deployed in field-testing; 3) all recordings of any testing of FAST technologies since December 13, 2011; and 4) all documents related to future field-testing of FAST technologies (including but not limited to Plan of Action and Milestones, Memoranda of Agreements/Understanding, and contracts). You confirmed with our office in a telephone conversation on February 23, 2015, that you are requesting documents created since December 13, 2011 for each request listed above.

In processing the above referenced request, it was determined that responsive records submitted by Draper Laboratory and Deloitte contain information that DHS has reason to believe may be protected from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 4 as confidential business information.

Executive Order 12600 (June 23, 1987) and the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. § 5.8(f) require that a government agency provide pre-disclosure notification to the submitter of business information whenever confidential commercial information has been requested under the FOIA. The business submitter is afforded ten (10) working days within which to provide the Department of Homeland Security with a statement of objection to disclosure. If this office decides to disclose business information over the objection of the business submitter, we must notify the business submitter in writing of the specified disclosure date, which is ten (10) working days after the notice of the final decision to release the requested information has been mailed to the submitter.
Due to the above requirements, you should anticipate some delay in receiving a final response to your request. However, this should not be construed as a denial of access. Upon receipt of the above information, the documents will be processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and mailed to you upon completion.

Please be advised, while processing this FOIA request we have also identified records that are of interest to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Therefore, we must consult with TSA prior to making a final determination of the releasability of the records. Upon completion of processing, all records that can be released will be made available to you at the earliest possible date.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact this office at stfoia@hq.dhs.gov or (202) 254-6342. Please refer to the assigned case number, 2015-STFO-027, in any future correspondence.

Sincerely,

Katrina Hagan
FOIA Officer