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Subject: Pending FOIAs - Need Cost Estimates Prepared
Date: Monday, November 30, 2015 7:49:46 PM
Importance: High

FYI, this afternoon I spoke with Tom Quasarano, Assistant Attorney General who advises state agencies on the FOIA. He said that we need to provide the requester with only a cost estimate by the response due date to avoid a court awarding fines/damages/fees/costs to the requester under Section 10 of the FOIA. Tom said that cost estimate would include all estimated technical and administrative staff time to review and produce the records, but the records do not first need to be reviewed by staff before an estimate is provided to the requester.

That being said, please plan to provide Tamara Mankel ASAP the LDO cost estimate for any past due Flint water-related FOIA requests so she can forward it to the requester(s).

In the meantime, Tom is going to provide me with language to respond to the requesters who are continually e-mailing me about the status of their FOIA requests.

Thanks much!