Department of Energy
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

AUG 14 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR: DAN BULLINGTON
PROGRAM RECORDS OFFICIAL
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

FROM: SHARON A. EVELIN
DEPARTMENTAL RECORDS OFFICER

SUBJECT: RM NUMBERED MEMORANDUM 06-34
WATER LEAK AT THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL RECORDS CENTER

We have been informed by the Washington National Records Center (WNRC) that in the afternoon of Sunday, July 2, 2006, an eight-inch sprinkler water main exploded in Stack 6 of the WNRC. The water from the broken main flowed through the stack and reached a depth of approximately five inches before the water flow could be curtailed. Since then, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has been actively working to recover wet records from the shelves.

Some of your records are either wet because they were in the immediate vicinity of the break or because they were on one of the bottom shelves throughout Stack 6. NARA will be giving us more information on the exact number of affected boxes as they compile that information.

Below is a preliminary list of your affected records:

Accession	Volume	Disposition Authority	Disposition Year	On Month	Series
434-03-0019	49	NC1-430-78-1(D)/ ADM-14,52.d.	2066	01	LITIG FILE

NARA currently has BMS CAT (a nationwide recovery company) on site assisting in the recovery operation. NARA's entire Conservation and Preservation Office (NWT) is present advising and assisting them. NARA will be using freeze-drying techniques to recover the records, which eliminate crinkling, expansion, and distortion. They will send the records to Fort Worth, Texas, for BMS CAT to dry the records in the boxes. Some records will be dry in about three weeks; BMS CAT will then begin returning records to

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper

NARA. NARA anticipates that all records will be back at WNRC by the end of the November 2006. The time frame is somewhat protracted as a result of state and Federal records that are still being dried as a result of the various hurricanes that hit the Gulf Coast last summer.

NARA will update us again as the recovery operation is ongoing.

We ask that you not contact NARA or WNRC directly. If you need any of these records during the drying process, let me know and my office will contact NARA and ask that they locate the records and give them priority in drying. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (301) 903-3455.

Attachment
Copy of SF-135