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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Gateway National Recreation Area
210 New York Avenue
Staten Island, N.Y. 10305-5019

June 19, 2017

John Greenwald
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Greenwald;

This letter is a formal acknowledgement of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request in which you requested the following:

“A copy of all memos and reports regarding the inadvertent/accidental shutdown of the lighting systems at the Statue of Liberty on Wednesday, March 8, 2017.”

Your request has been assigned tracking number EFTS 2017-00762. Please reference this number in any future correspondence relating to this request.

A thorough search of our records has produced a series of emails between NPS staff. There are no other documents that respond to your request. A copy of these documents are included with this letter.

The cost of responding to your request was minimal and has therefore been waived.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 718-354-4641 or by email: brian_feeney@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Brian Feeney
FOIA Officer



Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Statue of Liberty Lighting

1 message

John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>

Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 9:59 PM

To: jerry_willis@nps.gov

Cc: robert_parrish@nps.gov, chris_parsons@nps.gov, john_hnedak@nps.gov, rob.rodriguez@dep.nj.gov, matt_kutch@nps.gov

Jerry

Rob Rodriguez received a call from a reporter regarding the Statue of Liberty lights this evening. We should be prepared to issue a statement regarding the electrical work being done on the island related to activating the new emergency generator and get that out particularly to NJ press and neighbors.

John

Sent from my iPhone



Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Statue of Liberty Exterior Lights

1 message

Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov>

Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 10:50 PM

To: Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>

Cc: "Somma, David" <david_somma@nps.gov>, Cook Frank Stli <arthur_cook@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>, "Willis, Gerald" <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, "Culver, Peter" <peter_culver@nps.gov>, Christopher Kyriakou <Christopher_Kyriakou@nps.gov>, Anthony Lordo <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>

All,

Be advised that the lights that illuminate the Statue of Liberty are not currently on. The torch is lit. The pedestal is lighted. But the statue itself is dark on all sides. Officers at Liberty Island have been advised to notify NPS maintenance workers of the situation when the maintenance workers arrive in the morning.

Respectfully,

—

Sergeant Robert Kolsch
United States Park Police
Statue Of Liberty National Monument

(646) 356-2122 (Office)
(912) 577-0000 (Mobile)

Robert_Kolsch@NPS.gov





Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Re: Statue of Liberty Exterior Lights

1 message

John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>

Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 10:56 PM

To: "Kolsch, Robert" <robert_kolsch@nps.gov>

Cc: Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>, "Somma, David" <david_somma@nps.gov>, Cook Frank Stli <arthur_cook@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>, "Willis, Gerald" <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, "Culver, Peter" <peter_culver@nps.gov>, Christopher Kyriakou <Christopher_Kyriakou@nps.gov>, Anthony Lordo <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>

Thanks you. It's trending on social media. We will issue a statement in the morning.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2017, at 10:50 PM, Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov> wrote:

All,

Be advised that the lights that illuminate the Statue of Liberty are not currently on. The torch is lit. The pedestal is lighted. But the statue itself is dark on all sides. Officers at Liberty Island have been advised to notify NPS maintenance workers of the situation when the maintenance workers arrive in the morning.

Respectfully,

—
Sergeant Robert Kolsch
United States Park Police
Statue Of Liberty National Monument

(646) 356-2122 (Office)
(912) 577-0000 (Mobile)

Robert_Kolsch@NPS.gov

2016
National Park Service
CENTENNIAL





Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Re: Statue of Liberty Exterior Lights

1 message

Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov>

Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 11:44 PM

To: Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>, Raymond Closs <raymond_closs@nps.gov>, Robert Varnas <robert_varnas@nps.gov>, Osborne Reaves <osborne_reaves@nps.gov>, Greg Norman <Greg_Norman@nps.gov>, Sal Norman <sal_norman@nps.gov>, "Slowey, Christine" <christine_slowey@nps.gov>
Cc: "Somma, David" <david_somma@nps.gov>, Cook Frank Stli <arthur_cook@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>, "Willis, Gerald" <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, "Culver, Peter" <peter_culver@nps.gov>, Christopher Kyriakou <Christopher_Kyriakou@nps.gov>, Anthony Lordo <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>

Be advised that the lights are back on at the Statue of Liberty.

C and S worker Brian McKenna diagnosed the problem and was able to turn the light on.

Respectfully,

—
Sergeant Robert Kolsch
United States Park Police
Statue Of Liberty National Monument

(646) 356-2122 (Office)
(912) 577-0000 (Mobile)

Robert_Kolsch@NPS.gov

2016
National Park Service
CENTENNIAL





Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Re: Statue of Liberty Exterior Lights

1 message

John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>

Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 11:46 PM

To: "Kolsch, Robert" <robert_kolsch@nps.gov>

Cc: Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>, Raymond Closs <raymond_closs@nps.gov>, Robert Varnas <robert_varnas@nps.gov>, Osborne Reaves <osborne_reaves@nps.gov>, Greg Norman <Greg_Norman@nps.gov>, Sal Norman <sal_norman@nps.gov>, "Slowey, Christine" <christine_slowey@nps.gov>, "Somma, David" <david_somma@nps.gov>, Cook Frank Stli <arthur_cook@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>, "Willis, Gerald" <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, "Culver, Peter" <peter_culver@nps.gov>, Christopher Kyriakou <Christopher_Kyriakou@nps.gov>, Anthony Lordo <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>

Thanks. Can we get a quick diagnoses from them of what the problem was? The media is all over it and we are trying to get a statement out this evening.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2017, at 11:44 PM, Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov> wrote:

Be advised that the lights are back on at the Statue of Liberty.

C and S worker Brian McKenna diagnosed the problem and was able to turn the light on.

Respectfully,

—
Sergeant Robert Kolsch
United States Park Police
Statue Of Liberty National Monument

(646) 356-2122 (Office)
(912) 577-0000 (Mobile)

Robert_Kolsch@NPS.gov





Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Re: Statue of Liberty Exterior Lights

1 message

Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov>

Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 12:05 AM

To: John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>

Cc: Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>, Raymond Closs <raymond_closs@nps.gov>, Robert Varnas <robert_varnas@nps.gov>, Osborne Reaves <osborne_reaves@nps.gov>, Greg Norman <Greg_Norman@nps.gov>, Sal Norman <sal_norman@nps.gov>, "Slowey, Christine" <christine_slowey@nps.gov>, "Somma, David" <david_somma@nps.gov>, Cook Frank Stli <arthur_cook@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>, "Willis, Gerald" <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, "Culver, Peter" <peter_culver@nps.gov>, Christopher Kyriakou <Christopher_Kyriakou@nps.gov>, Anthony Lordo <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>

Yes. The engineer (Brian McKenna) said that it appears that the lights were turned off for work that was being done during the day and not re-set to come back on tonight.

On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 11:46 PM, John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks. Can we get a quick diagnoses from them of what the problem was? The media is all over it and we are trying to get a statement out this evening.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2017, at 11:44 PM, Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov> wrote:

Be advised that the lights are back on at the Statue of Liberty.

C and S worker Brian McKenna diagnosed the problem and was able to turn thew light on.

Respectfully,

—
Sergeant Robert Kolsch
United States Park Police
Statue Of Liberty National Monument

(646) 356-2122 (Office)
(912) 577-0000 (Mobile)

Robert_Kolsch@NPS.gov





Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Re: Statue of Liberty Exterior Lights

1 message

John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>

Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 12:07 AM

To: "Kolsch, Robert" <robert_kolsch@nps.gov>, jim.bems@musco.com

Cc: Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>, Raymond Closs <raymond_closs@nps.gov>, Robert Varnas <robert_varnas@nps.gov>, Osborne Reaves <osborne_reaves@nps.gov>, Greg Norman <Greg_Norman@nps.gov>, Sal Norman <sal_norman@nps.gov>, "Slowey, Christine" <christine_slowey@nps.gov>, "Somma, David" <david_somma@nps.gov>, Cook Frank Stli <arthur_cook@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>, "Willis, Gerald" <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, "Culver, Peter" <peter_culver@nps.gov>, Christopher Kyriakou <Christopher_Kyriakou@nps.gov>, Anthony Lordo <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 8, 2017, at 12:06 AM, Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov> wrote:

Yes. The engineer (Brian McKenna) said that it appears that the lights were turned off for work that was being done during the day and not re-set to come back on tonight.

On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 11:46 PM, John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks. Can we get a quick diagnoses from them of what the problem was? The media is all over it and we are trying to get a statement out this evening.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2017, at 11:44 PM, Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov> wrote:

Be advised that the lights are back on at the Statue of Liberty.

C and S worker Brian McKenna diagnosed the problem and was able to turn the light on.

Respectfully,

—
Sergeant Robert Kolsch
United States Park Police
Statue Of Liberty National Monument

(646) 356-2122 (Office)
(912) 577-0000 (Mobile)

Robert_Kolsch@NPS.gov



—
Sergeant Robert Kolsch
United States Park Police
Statue Of Liberty National Monument

(646) 356-2122 (Office)
(912) 577-0000 (Mobile)

Robert_Kolsch@NPS.gov





Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Re: Statue of Liberty Exterior Lights

1 message

Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>

Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 5:00 AM

To: John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>

Cc: "Kolsch, Robert" <robert_kolsch@nps.gov>, Raymond Closs <raymond_closs@nps.gov>, Robert Varnas <robert_varnas@nps.gov>, Osborne Reaves <osborne_reaves@nps.gov>, Greg Norman <Greg_Norman@nps.gov>, Sal Norman <sal_norman@nps.gov>, "Slowey, Christine" <christine_slowey@nps.gov>, "Somma, David" <david_somma@nps.gov>, Cook Frank Stli <arthur_cook@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>, "Willis, Gerald" <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, "Culver, Peter" <peter_culver@nps.gov>, Christopher Kyriakou <Christopher_Kyriakou@nps.gov>, Anthony Lordo <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>

John

We will investigate and interview this morning and discuss with you when you arrive

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2017, at 11:47 PM, John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks. Can we get a quick diagnoses from them of what the problem was? The media is all over it and we are trying to get a statement out this evening.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2017, at 11:44 PM, Kolsch, Robert <robert_kolsch@nps.gov> wrote:

Be advised that the lights are back on at the Statue of Liberty.

C and S worker Brian McKenna diagnosed the problem and was able to turn the light on.

Respectfully,

—
Sergeant Robert Kolsch
United States Park Police
Statue Of Liberty National Monument

(646) 356-2122 (Office)
(912) 577-0000 (Mobile)

Robert_Kolsch@NPS.gov



Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Re: Liberty Lights inspection update

1 message

Kyriakou, Christopher <christopher_kyriakou@nps.gov>

Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 11:44 AM

To: Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>

Cc: Peter Culver <Peter_Culver@nps.gov>, Lordo Tony uspp <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>, Piltzecker John <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, Hnedak John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Gerald Willis <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>

Sure Dave- I will forward this message to Sgt. Kolsch who will be covering tonight. I'll make sure the message gets to the Liberty officers on patrol.

On Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 11:40 AM, Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov> wrote:

Pete Chris Tony

All the Statue exterior lights have been inspected and will be ready to turn on automatically at sundown

We have some concerns with the lights by the motorcycle and if working properly

Would it be possible to have USPP Liberty patrol at night check the light pits and email us if they are working or if any lights are out.

If patrol could take a picture and send out it will help troubleshoot any issues

We will be investigating the lifts on Thursday March 10th during Liberty Island refueling.

Thanks to everyone's assistance

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

Lieutenant Christopher Kyriakou
Station Commander- STL/ Ellis Island
United States Park Police
Office: 646-356-2124
Cell: 917-838-9540





Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Re: Liberty Lights inspection update

1 message

Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov>

Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 11:56 AM

To: "Kyriakou, Christopher" <christopher_kyriakou@nps.gov>

Cc: Peter Culver <Peter_Culver@nps.gov>, Lordo Tony uspp <anthony_lordo@nps.gov>, Piltzecker John <john_piltzecker@nps.gov>, Cherie Butler <cherie_butler@nps.gov>, Sean Reynolds <sean_reynolds@nps.gov>, Duncan Tom C S <TomD@cnsbuilding.com>, Hnedak John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>, Gerald Willis <jerry_willis@nps.gov>, Michael Amato <michael_amato@nps.gov>

Chris

Thanks the info will help us troubleshoot

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 8, 2017, at 11:44 AM, Kyriakou, Christopher <christopher_kyriakou@nps.gov> wrote:

Sure Dave- I will forward this message to Sgt. Kolsch who will be covering tonight. I'll make sure the message gets to the Liberty officers on patrol.

On Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 11:40 AM, Dave Crotty <dave_crotty@nps.gov> wrote:

Pete Chris Tony

All the Statue exterior lights have been inspected and will be ready to turn on automatically at sundown

We have some concerns with the lights by the motorcycle and if working properly

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We will be investigating the lifts on Thursday March 10 th during Liberty Island refueling.

Thanks to everyone's assistance

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

Lieutenant Christopher Kyriakou
Station Commander- STLI/ Ellis Island
United States Park Police
Office: 646-356-2124
Cell: 917-838-9540





Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Fwd: Statue of Liberty Lighting

1 message

Willis, Gerald <jerry_willis@nps.gov>
To: John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Thu, May 18, 2017 at 6:11 AM

This is the first statement that went out to the media.

—— Forwarded message ——

From: **Gerald Willis** <jerry_willis@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 12:36 AM
Subject: Statue of Liberty Lighting
To: apnyc@ap.org

Statement - Temporary Lighting Outage Statue of Liberty

A portion of the lighting system that illuminates the Statue of Liberty experienced a temporary, unplanned outage tonight. The outage was most likely due to work related to an ongoing project to activate a new emergency backup generator that is part of our last remaining Hurricane Sandy recovery projects. We will be able to confirm the cause when crews return to the island Wednesday morning.

Jerry Willis | Public Affairs Officer
National Park Service
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island
(646) 356-2105 desk
(917) 299-3843 mobile

Sent from a mobile device

Jerry Willis | National Park Service
Public Affairs Officer
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island
(646) 356-2105 desk
(917) 299-3843 mobile
jerry_willis@nps.gov



Hnedak, John <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Fwd: UPDATE Statue of Liberty Lighting Outage

1 message

Willis, Gerald <jerry_willis@nps.gov>
To: John Hnedak <john_hnedak@nps.gov>

Thu, May 18, 2017 at 6:13 AM

This is the update that went out to the media the next morning.

—— Forwarded message ——

From: **Willis, Gerald** <jerry_willis@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 9:35 AM
Subject: UPDATE Statue of Liberty Lighting Outage
To:



Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island **UPDATE - Statement on Statue of Liberty Lighting Outage**

Contact: Jerry Willis

Phone: (646) 356-2105

Date: 3/8/17

A portion of the lighting system that illuminates the Statue of Liberty experienced a temporary, unplanned outage Tuesday night until full lighting was restored at 11:45 PM. After discussions with contractors and National Park Service personnel early Wednesday morning, it was determined that power and a lighting system controller had been switched off in order to change out faulty lighting equipment. Upon completion of that project, power was restored, but the outage was a result of a failure to properly reset the lighting system controller.

While this was an unplanned outage, there will be some planned outages related to the installation of new emergency backup generator for Liberty Island. We anticipate those outages will take place over the next few weeks. We will alert media and the public to these outages through statements to the media and on our social media platforms. The new emergency generator is one of the last Hurricane Sandy recovery projects at Liberty Island and will ensure that Lady Liberty shines brightly and weathers future storms.

Jerry Willis | National Park Service
Public Affairs Officer
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island
(646) 356-2105 desk
(917) 299-3843 mobile
jerry_willis@nps.gov