



*Office of the General Counsel
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*

October 21, 2008

Ms. Dafna Linzer
ProPublica Inc.
One Exchange Plaza
23rd Floor
New York, New York 1006

Re: FOIA Request Reference No.: 08-024

Dear Ms. Linzer:

This is in response to your request of September 22, 2008, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552 for a copy of the report entitled, "An Evaluation of Alhurra television programming, conducted for the Broadcasting Board of Governors by the University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy at the Annenberg School, University of Southern California," dated July 31, 2008.

The report you requested was prepared to assist the agency with current decision and policy recommendations to the Board and is currently under examination and review by the agency. As such, the report is considered privileged from disclosure under FOIA Exemption (b)5, 552(b)(5), as predecisional and deliberative process material. Therefore, we are unable to release the report you have requested. However, you are welcome to submit another request under the FOIA at a later date in the event the report is made available to the public.

Under the FOIA you have the right to appeal this decision. If you wish to do so, please send your appeal within 30 days from the date of this letter to the Chairperson, Access Appeal Committee, BBG, Suite 3349, 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20237.

Sincerely,

Martha A. Diaz-Ortiz
FOIA and Privacy Act Officer

