January 27, 2020
Re: EPIC-2019-001

Mr. John Davisson, Counsel
Ms. Enid Zhou, Open Government Counsel
Electronic Privacy Information Center
1519 New Hampshire Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036
davisson@epic.org
zhou@epic.org
VIA EMAIL

Dear Mr. Davisson and Ms. Zhou:

This is to re-acknowledge receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated September 11, 2019, which was originally acknowledged by the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence (NSCAI) on September 12, 2019. Your FOIA request seeks: “All records, reports, transcripts, minutes, appendixes, working papers, drafts, studies, agenda, or other documents which were made available to or prepared for or by the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence or any subcomponent thereof.” The Commission has approved your FOIA request, it has been given the processing number EPIC-2019-001.

The records you seek require searches of a voluminous amount of records and consultation with other Federal agencies, and so your request falls within “unusual circumstances.” See 5 U.S.C. 552 § (a)(6)(B)(ii)-(iii). Because of these unusual circumstances, NSCAI needs to extend the time limit to respond to your request beyond the ten additional days provided by the statute. For your information, the time needed to complete our work on your request will necessarily depend on a variety of factors, including the complexity of our records search, and the volume and complexity of any material located.

In an effort to speed up our process, you may wish to narrow the scope of your request to limit the number of potentially responsive records so that it can be more quickly completed. You can also agree to an alternative time frame for processing, should records be located; or you may wish to await the completion of our records search to discuss either of these options. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) of the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire into the FOIA mediation services they provide. OGIS can be contacted at the following:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
Room 2510
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
Telephone: (202) 741-5770  
Facsimile: (202) 741-5769  
Toll-Free: (877) 684-6448  
Email: ogis@nara.gov

You have requested expedited processing of your request. NSCAI will grant your request for expedited processing, however, as noted above, due to the size and scope of your request, processing will require significant time and resources to complete. We have also determined that you, and your organization, qualify for a fee waiver.

I regret the necessity of this delay, but I assure you that your request will be processed as soon as possible. If you have any questions or wish to discuss reformulation of your request, you may contact me by telephone at (571) 220-2701, by email at ml@nscai.gov, or by letter at National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence, 2530 Crystal Drive, Box 45, Arlington, VA 22202.

Sincerely,

Michael Lueptow  
General Counsel  
NSCAI