

## Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to Manage Its Public Records Requests with New System from Eskel Porter Consulting

*FERC Becomes First Federal Agency to Implement Public Records Tracker™*

SACRAMENTO, Calif.--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))-- Nov. 17, 2009 - Citing its need for a low cost, effective and easy way to manage public information requests, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has selected a new tracking solution from [Eskel Porter Consulting, Inc.](#), the company announced today.

With its decision, FERC becomes the first federal agency to seize the opportunity to use technology that makes it easier to operate with greater transparency, according to [John Schloemann](#), the company's Vice President.

"Like government entities everywhere, FERC should be commended for pursuing ways to be more responsive to taxpayers, advocacy groups and the media," said Schloemann. "Until now, there hasn't been a painless and low cost way to track [Public Records Act](#) (PRA) and [Freedom of Information Act](#) (FOIA) requests from citizens."

FERC had been using an outmoded and labor-intensive system of spreadsheets and databases, he said. Public Records Tracker was chosen over FOIAXpress from AINS Inc.

"The agency was looking for a simple and affordable out-of-the-box solution to put in place," said Schloemann. "What really appeals to FERC officials is a feature we developed to streamline the creation and filing of mandated reports to the Attorney General and others."

While Eskel Porter's [Public Records Tracker](#) is typically a completely web-based program that doesn't require any on-premise software installation, Eskel Porter tailored its Federal Edition for FERC so that all the information could be housed on FERC's own internal server.

"It's a great example of how adaptable and accessible Public Records Tracker is," said Schloemann. "All levels of government need a better, more cost-effective system, and our flexible approach works for all of them."

*Public Records Tracker* allows local, state and federal government to efficiently:

- Create record requests quickly
- Submit record requests to review and redact
- Maintain compliance with regulations on every request
- Assign requests to staff for "trackable" processing
- Ensure notifications are sent on schedule to requestors
- Streamline request workflow and improve efficiency
- Implement because it is built on the proven, reliable Microsoft [*Nasdaq: MSFT*] technology foundation of Dynamics CRM.

While budgets are tight across government, Schloemann said *Public Records Tracker* is an easy-to-use solution that has all the functionality needed to help government meet the compliance requirements of FOIA at a low cost. A monthly subscription is just \$125 per user. More information on Public Records Tracker, including an online product demonstration and a complimentary full version 30-day trial, can be found at [www.publicrecordstracker.com](http://www.publicrecordstracker.com)

Since 1978, [Eskel Porter Consulting \(www.eskelporter.com\)](http://www.eskelporter.com) has been providing information technology solutions and consulting services to the public and private sectors. The Sacramento-based company focuses on meeting its clients' business objectives throughout the IT lifecycle, from planning through deployment and into maintenance and operations. Eskel Porter's philosophy is to do what it takes for its clients to succeed - providing the expertise and resources to make technology work. Eskel Porter is a Microsoft [MSFT] Gold Certified Partner. Microsoft Dynamics CRM powers Eskel Porter's Public Records Tracker.

Source: Eskel Porter Consulting, Inc.