

NORTH AUGUSTA

SOUTH CAROLINA'S RIVERFRONT

FOIA 2020-39

Date: September 1, 2020

TO: 

Copy to:

Kelly Zier - City Attorney

Cammie Hayes – Director of Finance and General
Services

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

PLEASE BE ADVISED that the City of North Augusta has received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request the 1st day of September 2020. Such request has been forwarded to the appropriate department for response. In addition, a copy of said request has been forwarded to the office of the City Attorney for his review.

The City Attorney will make a determination as to whether the request is a proper request under the FOIA act. The appropriate department will advise as to what materials, documents, etc. may be available. That department will also provide information indicating the approximate time involved related to the retrieval of the documentation, and also the amount of material that would need to be copied in order to comply with the request. At such time as a response is received from the City Attorney and the appropriate department, we will then notify you of the response of the City to your FOIA request. In the event that the request is deemed appropriate and permissible under the FOIA act, we will advise you of same and also provide an estimate of the costs that would be related to responding to said request. In the event that it is determined that the FOIA request is not proper and not permitted by the act, you'll also be advised of that decision.

A response to your request will be made within the time limits as established by section 20-4-30(c) of the FOIA act. Specifically, this requires that said response be provided within 10 business days for any record requested that is less than 24 months old. A request for a record that is more than 24 months old, is to be responded to within 20 business days from the date of the receipt of your request. The City would not normally require the full period in order to respond, but reserves its right under the act to do so.

In the event that the response to your request is positive and the costs associated with retrieving and providing the data is minimal, in most cases, the City would forward the documentation to you with a statement for the costs. An example of charges would be 15¢ per page for black and white copies, 20¢ per page for color copies. The City does not charge for search and retrieval for fifteen minutes or less. For any time required to research and retrieve the requested information more than 15 minutes, the City charges, a minimum of \$8.00 per 30 minutes. Pursuant to the act, the charge for searching, retrieving, and redacting records is not to exceed the hourly wage of the lowest paid employee on the public body staff, who has the skill and training to fulfill the request. Therefore, the charge could be in excess of the \$8.00 per 30 minutes, if a

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regular clerical person is unable to perform the services. The specific FOIA Fee schedule, as adopted by the City is available for review online. In the event that the costs are considered to be of more than a nominal amount, the City would reserve the right to require a deposit of 25% of anticipated costs to be made before assembling, copying and delivering the materials. This would also provide to you the opportunity to determine if you desired to proceed with the request in light of the costs.

NOTICE: SOUTH CAROLINA LAW PROVIDES THAT "IT IS A CRIME TO KNOWINGLY OBTAIN OR USE PERSONAL INFORMATION FROM A PUBLIC BODY FOR COMMERCIAL SOLICITATION."



Sharon Lamar, City Clerk

City of North Augusta, South Carolina

Mrs. Sharon Lamar
City of North Augusta
100 Georgia Avenue
North Augusta, SC 29841

Dear Mrs. Lamar:

Under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 30-4-10, I am requesting to have sent to me information and an explanation of information from the attached documents:

Document A: This page was extracted from the City Financial Report **2017** titled:

City of North Augusta **Principal Property Taxpayers**-Current Year and Nine Years Ago.
I would like to have sent to me information how the Assessed Valuation was obtained from each corporation listed?

Did they submit a hard copy document, a report, or was it supplied by some other method (extracting it from City records)? Can you supply me a copy of the information that was sent to the City by each corporation ,if any?

Document B: This page was extracted from the City Financial Report **2017** titled:

City of North Augusta **Principal Employers**-Current Year and Nine Years Ago.
I would like to have sent to me information how the # of employees number was obtained from each corporation listed?

Did they submit a hard copy document, a report, or was it supplied by some other method (extracting it from City records)? Can you supply me a copy of the information that was sent to the City by each corporation, if any?

Document C: This page was extracted from the City Financial Report **2019** titled:

City of North Augusta **Principal Property Taxpayers**-Current Year and Nine Years Ago.
I would like to have sent to me information how the Assessed Valuation was obtained from each corporation listed?

Did they submit a hard copy document, a report, or was it supplied by some other method (extracting it from City records)? Can you supply me a copy of the information that was sent to the City by each corporation?

Document D : This page was extracted from the City Financial Report **2019** and titled:

City of North Augusta **Principal Employers**-Current Year and Nine Years Ago.
I would like to have sent to me information how the # of employees number was obtained from each corporation listed?

Did they submit a hard copy document, a report, or was it supplied by some other method (extracting it from City records)? Can you supply me a copy of the information that was sent to the City by each corporation, if any?

If there are any fees for searching or copying this information, please inform me if this cost will exceed \$25.00. However, I request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of finances and government activity for the City. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

Please submit to me the information requested in the time frame established by the FOIA. If you cannot supply any of the requested information, please cite the exemption from my request and notify me of the appeal procedure available to me under the law.

Sincerely,



DOCUMENT A

**City of North Augusta, South Carolina
Principal Property Taxpayers
Current Year and Nine Years Ago**

	<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>2017</u>			<u>2008</u>		
			<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation</u>
	S. C. Electric & Gas Co.	Utility	\$ 3,232,640	1	3.05%	\$ 1,927,950	2	2.82%
	Allnex Industries, Inc. (a)	Manufacturing	2,879,320	2	2.71%	2,246,820	1	3.28%
	Wal-Mart, Inc.	Retail Shopping	2,156,900	3	2.03%	911,490	4	1.33%
	SRP Federal Credit Union	Banking/Credit Union	1,265,570	4	1.19%			
	SUSO 3 Augusta, LP	Real Estate	1,111,260	5	1.05%			
	Halocarbon Chemicals, Inc.	Manufacturing	1,072,580	6	1.01%	845,340	5	1.24%
	CVS SC Distribution, Inc.	Warehousing/Distribution	755,930	7	0.71%	730,730	6	1.07%
	The Kroger Company	Grocery Store	650,890	8	0.61%			
	Lowe's Home Centers, Inc.	Retail Building Supplies	574,350	9	0.54%	492,430	8	0.72%
	Trailer Train-Hamburg Industries	Manufacturing	557,480	10	0.53%			
	Bell South Telecommunications	Communication				1,053,150	3	1.54%
	North Augusta Plaza SC, LLC	Real Estate				619,120	7	0.91%
	North Augusta Business Technology	Real Estate				349,260	9	0.51%
	Martintown Plaza	Real Estate				334,030	10	0.48%
	TOTAL Taxable Assessed							
	Value-10 Largest Taxpayers		<u>\$ 14,256,920</u>		<u>13.43%</u>	<u>\$ 9,510,320</u>		<u>13.90%</u>

Source: City of North Augusta tax records

This table lists the ten largest taxpayers, type of business, assessed valuation, and tax levy for the fiscal year 2017 (tax year 2016) as indicated by the City of North Augusta tax digest. This includes furniture, fixtures, and equipment assessed at 10.5% and commercial real estate at 6%.

(a) Allnex formerly Cytec formerly Surface Specialties

DOCUMENT B
City of North Augusta, South Carolina
Principal Employers
Current Year and Nine Years Ago

Employer	Location	Service or Product	2017			2008		
			Employees	Rank	% of Total County Employment	Employees	Rank	% of Total County Employment
Savannah River Site - see detail below (1)	Out	Materials for Nuclear Defense	11,091	1	15.62%	10,477	1	14.86%
Aiken County Public Schools	In / Out	School District	3,180	2	4.48%	3,303	2	4.68%
Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations LLC	Out	Passenger and Light Truck Tires	1,884	3	2.65%	964	5	1.37%
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	Out	Consumer Paper Products	1,200	4	1.69%	1,300	3	1.84%
Aiken Regional Medical Center	Out	Hospital	1,070	5	1.51%	976	4	1.38%
Aiken County Government	Out	County Government	975	6	1.37%	910	6	1.29%
Centerra (a)	Out	Engineering Consulting Firm	665	7	0.94%			
Advanced Glassfiber Yarn	Out	Fiberglass Insulation and Circuit Boards	660	8	0.93%	747	7	1.06%
University of South Carolina-Aiken	Out	Higher Education	606	9	0.85%			
Shaw Industries	Out	Fibers Manufacturing	600	10	0.84%	536	10	0.76%
UPS Customhouse Brokerage	Out	International Customhouse Brokerage	590	11	0.83%	579	9	0.82%
Walmart-North Augusta	In	Retail	585	12	0.82%			
City of Aiken	Out	Municipal Government	404	13	0.57%	413	13	0.59%
ASCO Valve, Inc.	Out	Solenoid Valve Technology	400	14	0.56%	481	11	0.68%
Bridgestone Americas Off Road Radial Tires	Out	Large and Ultra Large Tires	385	15	0.54%			
Tri Development Center of Aiken	Out	Non-Profit Service Agency	370	16	0.52%			
CVS Distribution Center	Out	Center for CVS Pharmacy locations	350	17	0.49%			
Hubbell Power Systems	Out	High Voltage Insulators and Arrestors Services and Products to Anesthesia Related	328	18	0.46%	415	12	0.59%
Medac	In	Healthcare Providers	325	19	0.46%			
TTX/Hamburg Industries, Inc.	In	Re-built Railway Cars	252	20	0.35%	333	15	0.47%
City of North Augusta	In	Municipal Government	243		0.34%	210	20	0.30%
The Calstar Group (b)	Out	Speciality Tires and Wheels	230		0.32%	277	18	0.39%
Glaxo Smith Kline	Out	Proprietary Drugs	200		0.28%	400	14	0.57%
Newman Technology SC, Inc	Out	Automotive/ATV Exhaust and Suspension	110		0.15%	320	16	0.45%
BAE Systems	Out	Machine Parts - Track Vehicles	104		0.15%	285	17	0.40%
R.E. Phelon, Inc.	Out	Aluminum Die Casting				235	19	0.33%
Westinghouse Safety Management Solutions	Out	Engineering Consulting Firm				580	8	0.82%

Source: Economic Development Partnership, Various Employers, and South Carolina Employment Commission

Location: **In** city limits, **Out** of city limits

* not in business at this time

** information not available

(1) SRNS/SRR, including subcontractors and temporary construction workers	7,771
Shaw Areva Mox Services	2,166
Parsons	506
Department of Energy	345
US Forestry Service	112
Savannah River Ecology Lab	71
Other Subcontractors	<u>120</u>
	11,091

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions/Savannah River Remediation Company employees live in 7 counties in South Carolina and 2 in Georgia with less than 6% scattered in other areas.

County	# of workers	%
Aiken County, South Carolina	4,472	57.5%
Columbia County, Georgia	1,308	16.8%
Richmond County, Georgia	822	10.6%
Barnwell County, South Carolina	452	5.8%
Edgefield County, South Carolina	213	2.7%
Orangeburg County, South Carolina	93	1.2%
Bamberg County, South Carolina	88	1.1%
Lexington County, South Carolina	111	1.4%
Allendale County, South Carolina	38	0.5%
Other	174	2.2%
	<u>7,771</u>	100.00%

(a) Formerly Wackenhut

(b) Formerly Carlisle Tire and Wheel Company

DOCUMENT C
City of North Augusta, South Carolina
Principal Property Taxpayers
Current Year and Nine Years Ago

		2019			2010		
		Assessed Valuation	Rank	Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation	Assessed Valuation	Rank	Percentage of Total Assessed Valuation
Taxpayer	Type of Business						
S. C. Electric & Gas Co.	Utility	\$ 3,449,210	1	3.00%	\$ 2,064,310	1	2.76%
Allnex Industries, Inc. (a)	Manufacturing	2,602,230	2	2.26%	1,408,170	2	1.88%
Wal-Mart, Inc.	Retail Shopping	2,512,010	3	2.18%	947,120	6	1.26%
SUSO 3 Augusta, LP	Real Estate	1,224,300	4	1.06%			
SRP Federal Credit Union	Banking/Credit Union	1,111,850	5	0.97%			
Halocarbon Chemicals, Inc.	Manufacturing	1,076,300	6	0.94%	1,096,450	3	1.46%
CVS SC Distribution, Inc.	Warehousing/Distribution	724,870	7	0.63%	903,200	7	1.21%
NHC Healthcare	Healthcare Facility	712,590	8	0.62%			
Lowes Home Centers, Inc.	Retail Building Supplies	580,550	9	0.50%	414,680	9	0.55%
The Kroger Company	Grocery Store	562,320	10	0.49%	495,110	8	0.66%
Bell South Telecommunications	Communication				965,160	5	1.29%
North Augusta Plaza SC, LLC	Real Estate				1,036,660	4	1.38%
Cutwater Inc & Nomad Investments	Real Estate				374,740	10	0.50%
TOTAL Taxable Assessed		\$ 14,556,230		12.65%	\$ 9,705,600		12.95%

Source: City of North Augusta tax records

This table lists the ten largest taxpayers, type of business, assessed valuation, and tax levy for the fiscal year 2018 (tax year 2017) as indicated by the City of North Augusta tax digest. This includes furniture, fixtures, and equipment assessed at 10.5% and commercial real estate at 6%.

(a) Allnex formerly Cytec Surface Specialties

DOCUMENT ID
City of North Augusta, South Carolina
Principal Employers
Current Year and Nine Years Ago

Employer	Location	Service or Product	2019			2010		
			Employees	Rank	% of Total County Employment (c)	Employees	Rank	% of Total County Employment
Savannah River Site - see detail below (1)	Out	Materials for Nuclear Defense	11,093	1	15.45%	12,367	1	18.84%
Aiken County Public Schools	In / Out	School District	3,400	2	4.73%	3,272	2	4.98%
Bridgestone Americas (2)	Out	Passenger/Light Truck Tires and Large/Ultra Large Tires	2,269	3	3.16%	930	5	1.42%
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	Out	Consumer Paper Products	1,200	4	1.67%	1,475	3	2.25%
Aiken Regional Medical Center	Out	Hospital	1,167	5	1.63%	1,002	4	1.53%
Aiken County Government	Out	County Government	975	6	1.36%	888	6	1.35%
Advanced Glassfiber Yarn	Out	Fiberglass Insulation and Circuit Boards	766	7	1.07%	770	7	1.17%
UPS Customhouse Brokerage	Out	International Customhouse Brokerage	610	8	0.85%	514	9	0.78%
University of South Carolina-Aiken	Out	Higher Education	606	9	0.84%			
Shaw Industries	Out	Fibers Manufacturing	600	10	0.84%	600	8	0.91%
Walmart-North Augusta	In	Retail	585	11	0.81%			
Crane Merchandising Systems	Out	Vending Machines	480	12	0.67%			
City of Aiken	Out	Municipal Government	404	13	0.56%	442	10	0.67%
ASCO Valve, Inc.	Out	Solenoid Valve Technology	427	14	0.59%	285	14	0.43%
Tri Development Center of Aiken	Out	Non-Profit Service Agency Supply Chain Management/Distribution Center for CVS	370	15	0.52%			
CVS Distribution Center	Out	Pharmacy Locations	350	16	0.49%			
Hubbell Power Systems	Out	High Voltage Insulators and Arrestors	328	17	0.46%	340	13	0.52%
Autoneum North America, Inc.	Out	Thermal & Acoustical Management	300	18	0.42%			
MTU America Inc.	Out	Off Road Diesel Engines and Components	360	19	0.50%			
City of North Augusta	In	Municipal Government	248	20	0.35%	213	17	0.32%
Westinghouse Safety Management Solutions	Out	Engineering Consulting Firm				438	11	0.67%
The Calstar Group (b)	Out	Speciality Tires and Wheels				400	12	0.61%
Glaxo Smith Kline	Out	Proprietary Drugs				245	15	0.37%
R.E. Phelon, Inc.	Out	Aluminum Die Casting				225	16	0.34%
PACTIV Corp.	Out	Plastic Food Service Plates				208	18	0.32%
Newman Technology SC, Inc	Out	Automotive/ATV Exhaust and Suspension				167	19	0.25%
BAE Systems	Out	Machine Parts - Track Vehicles				150	20	0.23%

Source: Economic Development Partnership, Various Employers, and South Carolina Employment Commission

Location: In city limits, Out of city limits

* not in business at this time
 ** information not available

(1) SRNS/SRR, including subcontractors and temporary construction workers	9,182	(2) Bridgestone America's Tire Operations, LLC Bridgestone America's Off Road Radial Tires	1,884 385
Shaw Areva Mox Services	0		2,269
Centerra	674		
Parsons	598		
Department of Energy	327		
US Forestry Service	81		
Savannah River Ecology Lab	117		
Other Subcontractors	114		
	11,093		

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions/Savannah River Remediation Company employees live in 7 counties in South Carolina and 2 in Georgia with less than 6% scattered in other areas.

County	# of workers	%
Aiken County, South Carolina	5,142	56.00%
Columbia County, Georgia	1,400	15.20%
Richmond County, Georgia	1,110	12.10%
Barnwell County, South Carolina	617	6.70%
Edgefield County, South Carolina	301	3.30%
Orangeburg County, South Carolina	108	1.20%
Bamberg County, South Carolina	96	1.00%
Lexington County, South Carolina	176	1.90%
Other	232	2.60%
	9,182	100.00%

(a) Formerly Wackenhut
 (b) Formerly Carlisle Tire and Wheel Company
 (c) 2019 employment not available. 2018 employment used to calculate percentage.