

Tammy Hodgman

From: Tammy Hodgman
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 9:54 AM
To: data@ohmanalytics.com
Cc: Linda Morrell
Subject: RE: Public Records Request - Windham Town , Maine (01/01/2024 to 12/31/2024)

Good morning,

You have requested both residential and commercial permit activity in Windham from 01/01/2024 to 12/31/2024 with various data points as listed in your original email below.

FOAA explicitly provides that the Town "shall provide access to an electronically stored public record in the medium in which the record is stored." The data in question is stored as raw information, not in the form/medium of a pre-generated report. As such, the Town is not required to create or reformat the data into a new report. Maine law does provide that if information does not exist in the form requested, but the information is contained in other records, the person requesting it must be so informed and invited to inspect and copy it in the form available. Our advice would be to inform the requester that the request is exempt under 1 M.R.S. § 408-A(6) because fulfilling it would require the creation of a record that does not currently exist (a specific report).

You are asking the Town to generate a new report by running the software—essentially asking for the creation of a compilation of data that is not otherwise available. FOAA does not require the Town to do this. Please note that future requests will not be fulfilled by a query of raw data from our software.

However, you may visit our website to peruse these permit records online at:
https://public.mygov.us/windham_me

Thank you,

Tammy Hodgman

Executive Assistant and Website Coordinator | tahodgman@windhammaine.us

Town of Windham | Office of the Town Manager

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Ph. 207.892.1907 | Fax 207.892-1910

PUBLIC HOURS: Monday 7:00-5:00 Tuesday 7:00-6:00 Wednesday 7:00-5:00 Thursday 7:00-4:00

NOTICE: Under Maine's Freedom of Access ("Right to Know") law, documents – including emails – in the possession of public officials about town business are considered public records. This means if anyone asks to see it, we are required to provide it. There are very few exceptions. We welcome citizen comments and want to hear from our constituents, but please keep in mind that what you write in an email is not private and will be made available to any interested party.

From: Linda Morrell <lmorrell@windhammaine.us>
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2025 8:09 AM
To: Tammy Hodgman <tahodgman@windhammaine.us>
Subject: FW: Public Records Request - Windham Town , Maine (01/01/2024 to 12/31/2024)

From: Chris Collins <data@ohmanalytics.com>
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2025 8:02 AM
To: Linda Morrell <lsmorrell@windhammaine.us>
Subject: Public Records Request - Windham Town , Maine (01/01/2024 to 12/31/2024)

Warning: Unusual sender <data@ohmanalytics.com>

You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Hi,

We are conducting research on solar activity in the U.S. and would like access to the following data for the date range (01/01/2024 to 12/31/2024):

- Issued Residential and Commercial Solar (photovoltaic - PV) permits
- Issued Residential and Commercial Energy Storage System permits

The following are the important data points:

- **Permit number**
- **Permit status**
- **Permit address**
- **Contractor**
- **Issue date**
- **Application date**
- **Final / Completion date**
- **Permit type**
- **Sub-type**
- **Valuation**
- **Work description**

Storage/Battery Manufacturer Name.

If you do not have separate categories for solar or storage, please provide all building and electrical permits.

Note that we do not need the original records nor need scanned copies – just the data that can be produced in excel or CSV format by the software used by your department to track permits and an email receipt is preferred.

If possible, please provide the reports in CSV or excel format.

Regards, and stay safe,

Chris

Chris Collins

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