

## General Accounting Office

## § 81.8

by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions.

(i) Records containing geological and geophysical information and data (including maps) concerning wells.

(j) Inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda, letters or other materials that are part of the deliberative process. For example, this exemption includes internal communications such as GAO or other agency draft reports, and those portions of internal drafts, memoranda and workpapers containing opinions, recommendations, advice or evaluative remarks of GAO employees. This exemption seeks to avoid the inhibiting of internal communications, and the premature disclosure of documents which would be detrimental to an agency function.

(k) Records in addition to those described in paragraph (j) of this section containing information customarily subject to protection as privileged in a court or other proceedings, such as information protected by the doctor-patient, attorney-work product, or lawyer-client privilege.

(l) Unsolicited records containing information submitted by any person to GAO in confidence and records which GAO has obligated itself not to disclose. An example of records covered by this exemption would be information obtained by the GAO Fraud Referral and Investigations Group (GAO Hotline).

[49 FR 38527, Oct. 1, 1984, as amended at 53 FR 50913, Dec. 19, 1988]

### § 81.7 Fees and charges.

(a) No fee or charge will be made for:

(1) Records provided under provisions of this part when the direct search and reproduction costs are less than \$25.

(2) Records requested which are not found or which are determined to be exempt under provisions of this part.

(3) Staff-hours spent in resolving any legal or policy questions pertaining to the request.

(4) Copies of records including those certified as true copies, that are furnished for official use to any officer or employee of the federal government.

(5) When necessary or desirable to the performance of a function of GAO, copies of pertinent records furnished to

a party having a direct and immediate interest in a matter pending before the Office.

(b) When costs are \$25 or more, the fees and charges described below, will be assessed for the direct costs of search and reproduction of records available to the public under this part.

(1) The reproduction charge per page shall be 20 cents.

(2) Certification of authenticity shall be \$10 for each certificate.

(3) Search for records by office personnel.

(i) Clerical personnel—\$10 an hour.

(ii) Professional personnel—\$20 an hour.

(4) Other direct costs related to the request may be charged for such items as computer searches.

(c) GAO shall notify the requester and may require an advance deposit where the anticipated fees will exceed \$50.

(d) Fees and charges shall be paid by check or money order payable to the U.S. General Accounting Office.

(e) Fees established by this section may be waived or reduced upon a determination by the Director, OP, that disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. Persons seeking such waiver or reduction of fees may be required to submit a statement setting forth the intended purpose for which the records are requested or otherwise indicate how disclosure will primarily benefit the public and, in appropriate cases, explain why the volume of records requested is necessary. Determinations pursuant to this paragraph are solely within the discretion of GAO.

[49 FR 38527, Oct. 1, 1984, as amended at 53 FR 50913, Dec. 19, 1988]

### § 81.8 Public reading facility.

A public reading facility shall be maintained by the General Accounting Office at 441 G Street NW., Washington, DC. The facility, under the control of the Office of the General Counsel, shall be open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to