

**Free and Open Access to Data/Information
A Federal Viewpoint (Defense)**

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ABSTRACT

The policy of the Department of Defense is to control the release of environmental data. However, while there are reasons for restricting data disclosure, most data is released, and there are cases of previously withheld data being released (e.g., Defense Meteorological Satellite Program data). Because of the necessity of limiting access to special data during military operations, the policy of withholding access to data in certain situations will continue on a case-by-case basis.