



United States Geographical Survey to be privatised






During March 2017, Wikileaks received documents revealing advanced plans by the US government to privatise one of its most eminent scientific organisations. The USGS holds highly valuable databases on the mineralogical resources within the US. It also monitors earthquake and volcanic activity.

All these aspects are considered to be of great commercial value. The documents reveal that the organisation could easily fund itself through commercial activities, and public funds are not required. Several mining companies are involved with the negotiations.

To allow for commercial activities, all requirements on making their data and products open access will be scrapped immediately. The USGS will also be released from all environmental legislation.

The volcano observatories are of no interests to the mining companies and will be split off as independent organisations. It is expected that they will be funded mainly through airlines and tourism.

Wikileaks, April 1, 2017

				
<p>WL Research Community - user contributed research based on documents published by WikiLeaks.</p>	<p>Tor is an encrypted anonymising network that makes it harder to intercept internet communications, or see where communications are coming from or going to.</p>	<p>Tails is a live operating system, that you can start on almost any computer from a DVD, USB stick, or SD card. It aims at preserving your privacy and anonymity.</p>	<p>The Courage Foundation is an international organisation that supports those who risk life or liberty to make significant contributions to the historical record.</p>	<p>Bitcoin uses peer-to-peer technology to operate with no central authority or banks; managing transactions and the issuing of bitcoins is carried out collectively by the network.</p>
