

Mr. Raymond A. Mosley, Director
 Office of the Federal Register
 800 N. Capitol Street, NW, Suite 700
 Washington, DC 20408

AG 08-2
 PDR

JUN 7 1999

ATTN: Barbara Suhre

RE: JUSTIFICATION FOR EXPEDITED PROCESSING OF NRC's FY 1999 FINAL FEE
 RULE

Dear Mr. Mosley:

The NRC is requesting expedited processing of this final FY 1999 fee rule in order to meet statutory requirements. I appreciated the expedited service your office provided in publishing our proposed fee rule on April 1, 1999, in response to my March 24, 1999, request. Regrettably, as we anticipated at that time, we must again ask for expedited service for the final fee rule publication.

The NRC is required by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA-90) to collect approximately 100 percent of its budgeted costs through license and annual fees, and is required to do so through notice and comment rulemaking each year. In order to affect this mandate to bill and collect by September 30, 1999, it is imperative that the final rule become effective no later than August 10, 1999, to provide a 30-day interest-free payment period in accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. Because the fee rule is a major rule under The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, the final rule must be published no later than June 10, 1999, to become effective August 10, 1999.

As you can see, in order to assure we meet our Congressional mandate to bill and collect 100 percent of our budget by September 30, 1999, the timing of the publication of the final rule is critical to meeting our goal.

Any assistance you can provide toward getting our final fee rule published by June 10, 1999, is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jesse Funches
 Chief Financial Officer

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