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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NRC STAFF REDUCES FINE FOR VIOLATIONS AT THE
J.A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has reduced from \$500,000 to \$300,000 a fine of the New York Power Authority (NYPA) for violations at its James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant at Oswego, NY. The fine was first proposed on September 15, 1992. NYPA appealed it and the NRC staff on January 29, 1993, (Friday) issued an order imposing the fine in the lesser amount.

The five violations in the enforcement action include: inadequate control of a modification at the facility and testing of equipment affected by the modification; failing to identify, correct and determine the root causes of conditions considered adverse to quality (such as equipment failures and operational deficiencies); two violations related to inadequate development and implementation of the fire protection and prevention program; and providing inaccurate information to the NRC.

In its response to the earlier Notice of Violation, NYPA admitted the violations, but asked that the NRC mitigate the fine. The NRC staff has decided the Power Authority did not provide a basis for full mitigation, but decided to exercise broad discretion and reduce the fine in recognition of the extensive corrective action taken by the licensee, management changes and the recently improved performance at the FitzPatrick plant.

NYPA has 30 days to either pay the fine or to request a hearing.

The State of New York has been informed of this enforcement action.

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