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Tel. 301/415-8200

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NRC REVISES FEE SCHEDULES

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is revising its licensing, inspection and annual fee schedules to recover approximately 100 percent of its fiscal year 1994 budget.

The revisions implement the requirements of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 which requires the NRC to recover approximately 100 percent of its budget authority--less appropriations from the Nuclear Waste Fund--for fiscal years 1991 through 1998 by assessing license and annual fees. The amount to be recovered in fiscal year 1994 is \$513 million.

The fee schedule reflects both the Commission's efforts to streamline operations and its Congressionally-approved rescission of \$12.7 million of its original appropriation for fiscal year 1994 of \$547.7 million. The revised budget authority is for \$535 million.

Of this amount, approximately \$22 million has been appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund leaving a total of \$513 million to be recovered from fees. This total for fiscal year 1994 is about \$6 million less than that for fiscal year 1993.

As revised, the annual fees for power reactor licensees will decrease slightly, compared to fiscal year 1993 fees. Annual fees for materials licensees will increase, compared to fiscal year 1993 fees.

The fiscal year 1994 budget attributable to materials licensees is higher than the comparable fiscal year 1993 amount and the number of licensees to be assessed annual fees has decreased, resulting in fewer licensees to pay for the full costs of regulatory activities.

The amendments to Parts 170 and 171 of the Commission regulations will become effective on August 19.