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NRC PROPOSES CHANGES IN FEE SCHEDULES

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

The proposed 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 proposed fee schedule reflects the Commission's efforts to streamline operations and its recent proposal, which has been approved by the Congress, for a \$12.7 million rescission to its original appropriation for fiscal year 1994 of \$547.7 million for a revised budget authority of \$535.0 million.

Of the \$535.0 million budget authority, approximately \$22.0 million has been appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund leaving a total of \$513.0 million to be recovered from fees. This amount for fiscal year 1994 is about \$6.0 million less than the total amount for fiscal year 1993.

As proposed, the annual fees for power reactor licensees would decrease slightly compared to the fiscal year 1993 fees. Annual fees for materials licensees would increase about 15 percent compared to the fiscal year 1993 fees.

The fiscal year 1994 budget amount attributable to materials licensees is about 10 percent higher than the comparable fiscal year 1993 amount and the number of licensees to be assessed annual fees has decreased from about 6,800 to about 6,500, resulting in fewer licensees to pay for the full costs of regulatory activities.

Written comments on the proposed amendments to Parts 170 and 171 of the Commission's regulations should be received by June 9, 1994. They should be addressed to the Secretary of the Commission, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch.

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