

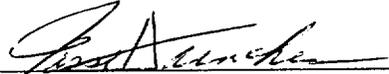
Approved for Publication

By memorandum dated February 18, 1997, the Commission delegated to the CFO the authority to develop and promulgate rules as defined in the APA (5 U.S.C. 551(4)), subject to the limitations of that memorandum.

The attached final rule amends 10 CFR Part 15. These amendments are necessary to conform NRC regulations to the legislative changes enacted in the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 and the amended procedures presented in the Federal Claims Collection Standards issued by the Department of the Treasury and the Department of Justice. This final action is intended to allow the NRC to improve its collection of debts due the United States.

The final rule is consistent with Commission debt collection policy and does not constitute a significant question of policy nor does it amend regulations contained in 10 CFR Part 7, 8, or 9 Subpart C concerning matters of policy. I therefore find that this final rule is within the scope of my rulemaking authority and am proceeding to issue it.

April 24, 2002


Jesse L. Funches
Chief Financial Officer