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* * * * *

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this _____ day of July, 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Jesse L. Funches,
Chief Financial Officer.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 170

RIN No. 3150-AH03

Cost Recovery for Contested Hearings Involving
U. S. National Security Initiatives

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Proposed Rule.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is proposing to amend its regulations to allow the agency to recover its costs associated with contested hearings involving U. S. Government national security-related proceedings through licensing or other regulatory service fees assessed to the affected applicant or licensee. This proposed amendment would be a special exception to the Commission's longstanding policy of not charging this type of fee for contested hearings and instead recovering the costs through the annual fees assessed to licensees within the affected class.