

Approved for Publication

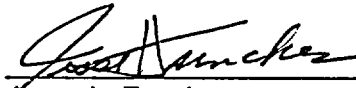
By memorandum dated February 18, 1997, the Commission delegated to the CFO the authority to develop and promulgate rules as defined in the APA (5 U.S.C. 551(4)), subject to the limitations of that memorandum.

The attached proposed rule amends 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171. These amendments are necessary to implement the requirements of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, to recover approximately 94 percent of the NRC's FY 2003 budget authority through license and annual fees.

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

3/27/03

Date



Jesse L. Funches
Chief Financial Officer