



RESPONSE TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) / PRIVACY ACT (PA) REQUEST

RESPONSE TYPE [X] FINAL [] PARTIAL

REQUESTER

Rama Ramachandran

DATE

AUG 09 2002

PART I. -- INFORMATION RELEASED (See checked boxes)

- No additional agency records subject to the request have been located.
Requested records are available through another public distribution program. See Comments section.
[X] APPENDICES A Agency records subject to the request that are identified in the listed appendices are already available for public inspection and copying at the NRC Public Document Room.
[X] APPENDICES B Agency records subject to the request that are identified in the listed appendices are being made available for public inspection and copying at the NRC Public Document Room.
[X] Enclosed is information on how you may obtain access to and the charges for copying records located at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC.
[X] APPENDICES B Agency records subject to the request are enclosed.
Records subject to the request that contain information originated by or of interest to another Federal agency have been referred to that agency (see comments section) for a disclosure determination and direct response to you.
We are continuing to process your request.
This completes NRC's action on your request.

PART I.A -- FEES

Fees
AMOUNT * \$ 385.70
You will be billed by NRC for the amount listed. None. Minimum fee threshold not met.
[X] You will receive a refund for the amount listed. Fees waived.
* See comments for details

PART I.B -- INFORMATION NOT LOCATED OR WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE

- No agency records subject to the request have been located.
Certain information in the requested records is being withheld from disclosure pursuant to the exemptions described in and for the reasons stated in Part II.
This determination may be appealed within 30 days by writing to the FOIA/PA Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Clearly state on the envelope and in the letter that it is a "FOIA/PA Appeal."

PART I.C COMMENTS (Use attached Comments continuation page if required)

Records subject to your FOIA request that are identified on enclosed Appendix A are already publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). We have enclosed a notice which provides procedures for obtaining records from the PDR. You may also review the App. A records through the electronic public reading room at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. If you need assistance in reviewing records in the electronic public reading room, please contact the PDR on (301) 415-4737, or toll free on (800) 397-4209.

The actual fees for processing your request are: \$42.94 for 1 hour search, \$35 for the duplication of 175 pages, total \$77.94. Since you provided advance fees in the amount of \$463.64, you will receive a refund in the amount of \$385.70 from the NRC Division of Accounting.

SIGNATURE - FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND PRIVACY ACT OFFICER

Carol Ann Reed

[Handwritten Signature]

[Handwritten Initials]

**APPENDIX A
RECORDS ALREADY AVAILABLE IN THE PDR**

NO.	DATE	ACCESSION NO.	DESCRIPTION/(PAGE COUNT)
1.	02/16/01	ML010590170	Ltr S. Gambhir, Omaha Public Power District, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Fort Calhoun Biennial Decommissioning Funding Status Report (8 pages)
2.	03/13/01	ML010790281	Ltr R. Byram, PPL Susquehanna, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Susquehanna Decommissioning Report of Financial Assurance (5 pages)
3.	03/15/01	ML010870315	Ltr S. Levin, GPU Nuclear, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Status for Three Mile Island (3 pages)
4.	03/15/01	ML 010930083	Ltr D. Christian, Virginia Electric & Power, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Surry & North Anna Decommissioning Financial Assurance (19 pages)
5.	03/20/01	ML010860517	Ltr J. Alexander, Entergy Nuclear, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Pilgrim Decommissioning Funding Status Report (17 pages)
6.	03/20/01	ML010860331	Ltr J. Swailes, Nebraska Public Power District, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Cooper Station (4 pages)
7.	03/21/01	ML010860345	Ltr M. Burzynski, TVA, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Status Report, Browns Ferry, Sequoyah, Watts Bar (34 pages)
8.	03/22/01	ML 010950267	Ltr T. Williamson, Maine Yankee, to NRC Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Re: Decommissioning Funding Status Report, Maine Yankee (3 pages)
9.	03/23/01	ML010870310	Ltr G. Kucera, Energy Northwest, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Columbia Level of Financial Protection Annual Reporting Requirement (1 page)

10. 03/23/01 ML010870284 Ltr D. Coleman, Energy Northwest, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Columbia Decommissioning fund Status Report (4 pages)
11. 03/26/01 ML 010940008 Ltr S. Redeker, SMUD, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Rancho Seco Report on Decommissioning Funding Status (4 pages)
12. 03/26/01 ML010890046 Ltr W. O'Connor, Detroit Edison, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Status Report for Fermi 2 (4 pages)
13. 03/26/01 ML010930409 Ltr A. Passwater, Ameren UE, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Callaway Decommission Planning (4 pages)
14. 03/27/01 ML010930268 Ltr O. Maynard, Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp., to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Wolf Creek Report on Status of Decommissioning Funding (23 pages)
15. 03/27/01 ML010950254 Ltr R. Mothena, Florida Power & Light, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: St Lucie, Turkey Point Decommissioning Fund Status Report (6 pages)
16. 03/27/01 ML010890155 Ltr S. Greenlee, Indiana Michigan Power, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Cook Decommissioning Funding Status (13 pages)
17. 03/27/01 ML010940273 Ltr E. Simpson, PSEG Nuclear, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Hope Creek, Salem, & Peach Bottom Decommissioning Funding Status Report (5 pages)
18. 03/27/01 ML011090404 Ltr H. Summer, Southern Company, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Hatch Financial Assurance Requirements for Decommissioning..(82 pages)
19. 03/28/01 ML011090452 Ltr J. Beasley, Southern Company, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Vogtle Financial Assurance Requirements for Decommissioning..(108 pages)
20. 03/28/01 ML010930102 Ltr B. Wiggett, Vermont Yankee, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Vermont Yankee Decommissioning Fund...(19 pages)
21. 03/28/01 ML010930273 Ltr W. O'Connor, Detroit Edison, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Status Report for Fermi 1 (4 pages)

22. 03/29/01 ML010890267 Ltr C. Montgomery, MidAmerican Energy, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Status Report Quad Cities (5 pages)
23. 03/29/01 ML010920406 Ltr M. Wadley, Nuclear Management Company, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Status Reports, Kewaunee, Point Beach, Monticello, Prairie Island (7 pages)
24. 03/29/01 ML010940051 Ltr F. Mallen, STP Nuclear Operating Co., to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: South Texas Decommissioning Funding Status Report (11 pages)
25. 03/29/01 ML011000006 Ltr J. Benjamin, ArneTGen Energy, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Clinton, Oyster Creek, Three Mile Island Report on Status of Decommissioning... (3 pages)
26. 03/29/01 ML010930458 Ltr J. Kay, Yankee Atomic, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Assurance Yankee (4 pages)
27. 03/29/01 ML010930157 Ltr M. Tuckman, Duke Power, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Financial Reports for Oconee, McGuire, & Catawba (17 pages)
28. 03/29/01 ML010930287 Ltr K. Haas, Consumers Energy, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Big Rock Point Certification of Financial Assurance...(3 pages)
29. 03/29/01 ML010930104 Ltr C. Cruse, Constellation Nuclear, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Calvert Cliffs Biennial Report on the Status of Decommissioning (3 pages)
30. 03/29/01 ML010940045 Ltr S. Quennoz, Portland General Electric, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Annual Report of Status of Decommissioning for Trojan (28 pages)
31. 03/29/01 ML010950263 Ltr S. Byrne, SCE&G, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Virgil Report of Status of Decommissioning Funding (9 pages)
32. 03/30/01 ML011000330 Ltr N. Haskell, Consumers Energy, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Palisades Certification of Financial Assurance for Decommissioning (3 pages)
33. 03/30/01 ML010950225 Ltr M. Chaplin, Santee Cooper, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Virgil Summer Report on Status of Decommissioning Funding (4 pages)

34. 03/30/01 ML010930426 Ltr T. Feigenbaum, North Atlantic, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Seabrook Decommissioning Funding Status (129 pages)
35. 03/30/01 ML010920336 Ltr A. Scherer, Southern California Edison, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Report San Onofre (4 pages)
36. 03/30/01 ML010920391 Ltr A. Scherer, Southern California Edison, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding Report San Onofre (4 pages)
37. 03/30/01 ML011000065 Ltr T. Morton, Florida Power, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: H. B. Robinson, Brunswick, Shearon Harris, & Crystal River Decommissioning Funding Status Report (11 pages)
38. 03/30/01 ML011000017 Ltr D. Morey, Southern Company, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Re: Farley Financial Assurance...* pages)
39. 03/30/01 ML011010077 Ltr L. Olivier, Northeast Nuclear Energy, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Millstone Decommissioning Funding...(13 pages)
40. 03/30/01 ML011000274 Ltr J. Conway, Niagara Mohawk, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Nine Mile Point Decommissioning Funding..(14 pages)
41. 03/30/01 ML010920374 Ltr R. Osborne, Allegheny Electric, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Susquehanna Decommissioning Report...(6 pages)
42. 03/30/01 ML010950257 Ltr N. Fetherston, Connecticut Yankee Atomic, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Haddam Neck Decommissioning...(4 pages)
43. 03/30/01 ML011010107 Ltr R. Mecredy, Rochester Gas & Electric, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding for Ginna (4 pages)
44. 03/30/01 ML011000005 Ltr J. Benjamin, Exelon Nuclear, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Braidwood, Byron, Dresden, LaSalle, Limerick, Peach Bottom, Salem, Quad Cities, & Zion Report on Status of Decommissioning (10 pages)
45. 03/30/01 ML011000054 Ltr L. Womack, Pacific Gas & Electric, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Diablo Canyon & Humboldt Bay Decommissioning Funding (19 pages)

46. 03/30/01 ML010930089 Ltr M. Kansler, Entergy Nuclear, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Indian Point & FitzPatrick Status of Decommissioning Funding (4 pages)
47. 03/30/01 ML010940134 Ltr M. Krupa, Entergy Operations, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Status of Decommissioning Funding for Grand Gulf, River Bend, & Waterford (69 pages)
48. 03/30/01 ML010940014 Ltr C. Terry, TXU Electric, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Comanche Peak Decommissioning Report (4 pages)
49. 03/31/01 ML010930226 Ltr E. Protsch, Alliant Energy, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Duane Arnold Decommissioning Funding Report (16 pages)
50. 04/02/01 ML011000009 Ltr M. Krupa, Entergy Operations, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Arkansas Nuclear One Status of Decommissioning Funding (29 pages)
51. 04/02/01 ML010950012 Ltr A. Blind, Consolidated Edison, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Funding...Indian Point (4 pages)
52. 04/13/01 ML011010143 Ltr G. Musto, Conectiv, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Annual Decommissioning for Hope Creek, Salem, & Peach Bottom (47 pages)
53. 04/23/01 ML011160126 Ltr R. Mueller, Dairyland Power, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: LaCrosse Financial Statement & Auditor's Report (13 pages)
54. 08/15/01 ML012330168 Ltr T. Brickhouse, Old Dominion, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: North Anna (21 pages)
55. 09/17/01 ML012700021 Ltr M. Krupa, Entergy, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Arkansas One Decommissioning Funding (3 pages)
56. 12/10/01 ML020220248 Ltr M. Tuckman, Duke Power, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Financial... Oconee, McGuire, & Catawba (12 pages)
57. 03/12/02 ML020860439 Ltr L. Lahti, NMC, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Palisades Certification of Financial Assurance (1 page)
58. 03/25/02 ML020910236 Ltr R. Saunders, FENOC, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Decommissioning Reports for Beaver Valley, Davis-Besse, Perry, Three Mile Island, & Saxton (25 pages)

**APPENDIX B
RECORD BEING RELEASED IN ITS ENTIRETY**

<u>NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION/(PAGE COUNT)</u>
1.	09/18/01	E-mail from David Sommers, Dominion Electric, to S. Monarque, NRR, regarding NRC Financial Assurance RAI (North Ann & Surry). (1 page)
2.	08/01/02	Ltr G. Overbeck, APS, to NRC Document Control Desk, Re: Palo Verde Nuclear...Re-Submittal of Decommissioning Funding Status (175 pages)

From: "Ramachandran, Rama P" <rama.p.ramachandran@bankofamerica.com>
To: <foia@nrc.gov>
Date: Wed, May 15, 2002 3:10 PM
Subject: Nuclear Decommissioning Trusts

In a GAO report, dated May 1999, it states that each licensee must report the amounts of decommissioning funds, the expected amount needed at a plant's retirement, and remaining to be collected each year with the NRC every 2 years.

I would like to get hold of this information for each licensee.

Rama

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FOIA/PA REQUEST

Case No: 2002-0268
Date Rec'd: 5/15/02
Action Off: BROWN
Related Case: _____

United States General Accounting Office

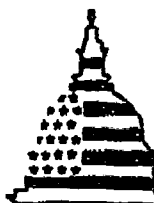
GAO

Report to Congressional Requesters

May 1999

**NUCLEAR
REGULATION**

**Better Oversight
Needed to Ensure
Accumulation of Funds
to Decommission
Nuclear Power Plants**



G A O

Accountability * Integrity * Reliability

Executive Summary

NRC elected not to address the likelihood of premature plant retirements because, in its view, a few premature closures do not justify requiring all licensees to accelerate the collection of their decommissioning funds. NRC intends to continue its practice of addressing early plant retirements on a case-by-case basis. Also, at NRC's request, the administration included a provision in its 1999 proposed bill on the deregulation of the electricity industry that would give priority to funding decommissioning in bankruptcy proceedings.

NRC also began requiring licensees to report financial information on decommissioning funds every 2 years beginning by the end of March 1999. Each licensee must report the amounts of decommissioning funds accumulated, expected to be needed at a plant's retirement, and remaining to be collected each year. The reports must state the licensee's assumptions for escalating decommissioning costs, estimating the fund's earnings, and discounting projections for the fund. After reviewing the initial reports from licensees, NRC intends to consider the need for further rulemaking in this area.

The new financial-reporting requirements should provide NRC with the information to address such issues as the rates at which licensees are accumulating decommissioning funds, the effect of the electricity industry's deregulation on financial assurances for decommissioning, and the possibility of the additional early retirements of uneconomical plants. However, NRC has not explained how it intends to act on the reported financial information. For example, NRC has not established criteria for requiring a licensee to change how it accumulates funds or to provide additional assurance that funds will be available. Instead, NRC stated that it will consider issuing additional guidance after licensees have submitted their initial reports.

Recommendations

To provide for the logical, coherent, and predictable oversight of licensees' financial assurances for decommissioning their nuclear power plants, GAO recommends that the Chairman, NRC, provide licensees and the public with information on the (1) objectives of, scope of, and methods used in NRC's reviews of licensees' financial reports; (2) thresholds for identifying, on the basis of these reviews, acceptable, questionable, and unacceptable indications of financial assurances; and (3) criteria for actions to be taken on the results of these reviews.