May 23, 2005

The Honorable George V. Voinovich, Chairman Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover approximately 90 percent of its FY 2005 budget authority, less the appropriation from the Nuclear Waste Fund, by assessing license and annual fees. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$540.7 million in FY 2005.

In order to comply with the law, the Commission is amending its fee regulations in 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171. The amendments to 10 CFR Part 170 will revise the professional hourly rates and flat license application fees to reflect the costs of providing NRC licensing services to applicants and licensees. The hourly rate used to assess Part 170 fees will increase to \$205 for the Nuclear Reactor Safety Program and \$197 per hour for the Nuclear Materials and Waste Safety Program. The revised rates more accurately reflect the resources NRC expends providing licensee-specific services.

The amendments to 10 CFR Part 171 will establish the amount of the FY 2005 annual fees to be assessed to reactor licensees, fuel cycle licensees, transportation certificate holders, and materials licensees to recover costs not recovered through 10 CFR Part 170 fees. The FY 2005 annual fees will result in decreased annual fees compared to FY 2004 for five classes of licensees (power reactors, non-power reactors, rare earth mills, spent fuel storage/reactor decommissioning, and transportation), and increased annual fees for two classes (fuel facilities, and uranium recovery). For one class, materials users, most categories of licenses will have increased annual fees, others will have decreased annual fees, and two categories' annual fees will remain unchanged. The major factors affecting the annual fee amounts include: changes in budgeted costs for the different classes of licenses, reduction in the statutory requirement for NRC to recover fees from 92 percent in FY 2004 to 90 percent in FY 2005, and estimated Part 170 collections from various classes of licenses.

Those NRC licensees that can qualify as a small entity under NRC's size standards will continue to be eligible to pay reduced annual fees.

Enclosed is a copy of the final rule which is being transmitted to the *Federal Register* for publication. The final rule will become effective 60 days after publication.

Sincerely, /RA/

William N. Outlaw, Acting Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Final Revision to 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171

cc: Senator Thomas R. Carper

The Honorable Ralph M. Hall, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover approximately 90 percent of its FY 2005 budget authority, less the appropriation from the Nuclear Waste Fund, by assessing license and annual fees. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$540.7 million in FY 2005.

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The amendments to 10 CFR Part 171 will establish the amount of the FY 2005 annual fees to be assessed to reactor licensees, fuel cycle licensees, transportation certificate holders, and materials licensees to recover costs not recovered through 10 CFR Part 170 fees. The FY 2005 annual fees will result in decreased annual fees compared to FY 2004 for five classes of licensees (power reactors, non-power reactors, rare earth mills, spent fuel storage/reactor decommissioning, and transportation), and increased annual fees for two classes (fuel facilities, and uranium recovery). For one class, materials users, most categories of licenses will have increased annual fees, others will have decreased annual fees, and two categories' annual fees will remain unchanged. The major factors affecting the annual fee amounts include: changes in budgeted costs for the different classes of licenses, reduction in the statutory requirement for NRC to recover fees from 92 percent in FY 2004 to 90 percent in FY 2005, and estimated Part 170 collections from various classes of licenses.

Those NRC licensees that can qualify as a small entity under NRC's size standards will continue to be eligible to pay reduced annual fees.

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Sincerely, /RA/

William N. Outlaw, Acting Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Final Revision to 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171

cc: Representative Rick Boucher

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover approximately 90 percent of its FY 2005 budget authority, less the appropriation from the Nuclear Waste Fund, by assessing license and annual fees. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$540.7 million in FY 2005.

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Sincerely,

/RA/ William N. Outlaw, Acting Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Final Revision to 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171

cc: Senator Harry Reid

The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Chairman Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover approximately 90 percent of its FY 2005 budget authority, less the appropriation from the Nuclear Waste Fund, by assessing license and annual fees. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$540.7 million in FY 2005.

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Sincerely,

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William N. Outlaw, Acting Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Final Revision to 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171

cc: Senator James M. Jeffords

The Honorable Joe Barton, Chairman Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover approximately 90 percent of its FY 2005 budget authority, less the appropriation from the Nuclear Waste Fund, by assessing license and annual fees. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$540.7 million in FY 2005.

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Sincerely,

/RA/

William N. Outlaw, Acting Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Final Revision to 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171

cc: Representative John Dingell

The Honorable Jim Nussle, Chairman Committee on the Budget United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover approximately 90 percent of its FY 2005 budget authority, less the appropriation from the Nuclear Waste Fund, by assessing license and annual fees. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$540.7 million in FY 2005.

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The amendments to 10 CFR Part 171 will establish the amount of the FY 2005 annual fees to be assessed to reactor licensees, fuel cycle licensees, transportation certificate holders, and materials licensees to recover costs not recovered through 10 CFR Part 170 fees. The FY 2005 annual fees will result in decreased annual fees compared to FY 2004 for five classes of licensees (power reactors, non-power reactors, rare earth mills, spent fuel storage/reactor decommissioning, and transportation), and increased annual fees for two classes (fuel facilities, and uranium recovery). For one class, materials users, most categories of licenses will have increased annual fees, others will have decreased annual fees, and two categories' annual fees will remain unchanged. The major factors affecting the annual fee amounts include: changes in budgeted costs for the different classes of licenses, reduction in the statutory requirement for NRC to recover fees from 92 percent in FY 2004 to 90 percent in FY 2005, and estimated Part 170 collections from various classes of licenses.

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Sincerely,

/RA/

William N. Outlaw, Acting Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Final Revision to 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171

cc: Representative John M. Spratt, Jr.

May 23, 2005

The Honorable Judd Gregg, Chairman Committee on the Budget United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover approximately 90 percent of its FY 2005 budget authority, less the appropriation from the Nuclear Waste Fund, by assessing license and annual fees. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$540.7 million in FY 2005.

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Those NRC licensees that can qualify as a small entity under NRC's size standards will continue to be eligible to pay reduced annual fees.

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Sincerely,

/RA/

William N. Outlaw, Acting Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Final Revision to 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171

cc: Senator Kent Conrad

The Honorable David L. Hobson, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Committee on Appropriations United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover approximately 90 percent of its FY 2005 budget authority, less the appropriation from the Nuclear Waste Fund, by assessing license and annual fees. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$540.7 million in FY 2005.

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Jesse L. Funches Chief Financial Officer

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CC:

Distribution:

OCA/RF

Representative Peter J. Visclosky **see attached concurrence <u>iDENTICAL LETTERS SENT TO ATTACHED LIST</u> OCFO/DFM/LFT RF OCFO/DFM RF OCFO/DFM SF (LF-1.33) T. Croote OCFO/RF - <u>Yes/No SENSITIVE/NON-SENSITIVE</u> <u>PUBLIC/NON-PUBLIC</u> Initials - RS

OCFO/SF

ADAMS - Yes/No SENSITIVE/<u>NON-SENSITIVE</u> <u>PUBLIC</u>/NON-PUBLIC Initials - <u>RS</u> E:\Filenet\ML051290158.WPD *See Previous Concurrence (To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy.

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OF	FICE	ADM		DCFO	С	OCA		Acting CFO	
OFI		ADM MLesar* (e-mail)		DCFO PJRabideau*	С	0CA WNOutlaw** T. Madden (for	·)	Acting CFO PJRabideau	

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Those NRC licensees that can qualify as a small entity under NRC's size standards will continue to be eligible to pay reduced annual fees.

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Sincerely, /RA/ William N. Outlaw, Acting Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Final Revision to

10 CFR Parts 170 and 171 Senator Thomas R. Carper CC: Distribution: **IDENTICAL LETTERS SENT TO ATTACHED LIST** OCFO/DFM/LFT RF OCFO/DFM RF OCFO/DFM SF (LF-1.33) T. Croote OCFO/RF OCFO/SF OCA/RF ADAMS - Yes/No SENSITIVE/NON-SENSITIVE PUBLIC/NON-PUBLIC Initials - RS E:\Filenet\ML051290158.WPD *See Previous Concurrence $\mathbf{C}^{*} = \mathbf{C}$ at/analogues "E" = Cany with attachment/analogues "N" - No conv

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OFFICE NAME	ADM MLesar* (e-mail)		DCFO PJRabideau		CFO JLFunches		OCA WNOutlaw		

IDENTICAL LETTERS SENT TO:

The Honorable George V. Voinovich, Chairman Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

cc: Senator Thomas R. Carper

The Honorable Ralph M. Hall, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

cc: Representative Rick Boucher

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Senator Harry Reid

The Honorable David L. Hobson, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Committee on Appropriations United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

cc: Representative Peter J. Visclosky

The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Chairman Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Senator James M. Jeffords

The Honorable Joe Barton, Chairman Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

cc: Representative John Dingell

The Honorable Jim Nussle, Chairman Committee on the Budget United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

cc: Representative John M. Spratt, Jr.

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