



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 6, 2012

CHIEF FINANCIAL  
OFFICER

Mr. Tim DeBey  
USGS Reactor Supervisor  
Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Box 25046 MS-974  
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. DeBey:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of June 15, 2012, requesting a fee waiver under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 171.11(a)(2) for the U.S. Geological Survey's non-power reactor in Denver, Colorado (CO).

The NRC notes that your letter certifies the U.S. Geological Survey's research reactor in Denver, CO, continues to meet the exemption criteria specified in 10 CFR 171.11(a)(2). The NRC acknowledges your letter complies with our letter dated July 6, 1995 from the Office of Chief Financial Officer stating for subsequent years, the U.S. Geological Survey must certify its research reactor in Denver, CO, meets the exemption criteria specified in 10 CFR 171.11(a)(2). The NRC recognizes the U.S. Geological Survey was first granted an exemption from the FY 1992 annual license fees for its non-power reactor in Denver, CO, and that the exemption has continued through FY 2011.

The NRC concludes the U.S. Geological Survey's non-power reactor in Denver, CO, meets the regulations as required under 10 CFR 171.11(a)(2); therefore, the fee exemption request is granted. If you have any technical questions regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Paulette Torres at 301-415-5656. Please contact Ms. Arlette Howard, of my staff, at 301-415-1481, for any fee-related questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melton Brown" with a stylized flourish at the end.

J. E. Dyer  
Chief Financial Officer

August 6, 2012

Mr. Tim DeBey  
USGS Reactor Supervisor  
Department of the Interior  
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Sincerely,

/RA/

J. E. Dyer  
Chief Financial Officer

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P. Torres, NRR

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