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Variable Annual Fee Structure for Small Modular Reactors

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General Comment

Based on the ongoing decommissioning of a large number of US power reactors and the uncertain production of SMR units, the NRC should ask Congress to change their funding system. Instead of relying heavily on fees from power plant operators, a significant portion of the funding should be allocated by Congress. Funding off of operator fees has created a long term conflict of interest. The current system also holds the potential for budget shortfalls as more aging reactors shut down yet NRC will still have considerable work to do supervising decommissioning and defunct nuclear sites that fall under their authority.