

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 25, 2018

Ms. Christine McDonald The Office of Management and Budget 725 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. McDonald:

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended, requires that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recover through fees approximately 90 percent of its Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget authority, not including any amounts appropriated for Waste Incidental to Reprocessing, generic homeland security activities, and Inspector General Services for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. The NRC's FY 2018 final fee rule is based on the NRC appropriation stated in Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, Public Law 115-141, the NRC is required to collect all fees by September 30, 2018. In addition, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, excluded advanced reactor regulatory infrastructure activities and international activities from the fee-recoverable budget.

In order to comply with the law, the Commission is amending its fee regulations under 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171. The NRC is required to recover approximately \$790.3 million for FY 2018. After accounting for billing and collection adjustments, the total amount to be billed as fees is approximately \$789.3 million. The amendments to 10 CFR Part 170 would revise the professional hourly rate and flat license application fees charged to licensees and applicants. The hourly rate used to assess 10 CFR Part 170 fees would increase to \$275, previously \$263 for FY 2017.

The amendments to 10 CFR Part 171 establish the amount of the FY 2018 annual fees to be assessed to NRC licensees to recover costs not recovered through 10 CFR Part 170 fees. Compared to FY 2017, the FY 2018 rebaselined annual fees will decrease for research and test reactors, many materials users, uranium recovery licensees, and Department of Energy's (DOE) transportation activities and increase for operating reactors, spent fuel storage/reactor decommissioning, fuel facilities, and some materials users. Additionally, the NRC made a policy change to small materials user fee categories for location of use that will more accurately reflect the cost of services provided by the NRC.

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/

Stephanie M. Coffin, Director Division of Planning and Budget Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Enclosure: Federal Register, Notice

cc: Donovan O. Robinson, OMB

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2018 FINAL FEE RULE LETTER TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, DATED: June 25, 2018

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