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Frederici J. Bonte, M.D. Director Nuclear Medicine Center

October 23, 1989

Secretary of the Commission U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Docketing and Service Branch, Docket # PRM-35-9 Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Secretary:

By way of introduction I am Frederick J. Bonte, M.D., Professor of Radiology and Director of the Nuclear Medicine Research Center at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. I have had a lifelong association with the field that is now called nuclear medicine, beginning as a research fellow in the old AEC laboratory at Western Reserve University in 1948, and later serving on a number of advisory committees to the AEC and the ERDA, both at Oak Ridge and Los Alamos. At this institution, I founded the radiology department and served as its chairman for 17 years, and I served as the Dean of the medical school during the 70's. Since my retirement from that position I have headed the research unit here.

I send this letter in support of the Petition for Rulemaking of the American College of Nuclear Physicians and the Society of Nuclear Medicine, dealing with revised 10 CFR 35 regulations. All throughout the continuity of operations of AEC, ERDA, and NRC, there has been an underlying principle of noninterference with the practice of medicine, while carrying out the mission of ensuring public safety with respect to the use of ionizing radiation. Physicians who possess the necessary qualifications to use radiopharmaceuticals safely and intelligently must be permitted to continue to do so. Some years ago I helped to found and for three years I chaired the American Board of Nuclear Medicine, an organization designed to provide just such qualifications.

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In summary, I support the petition of ACNP and SNM, believing it to be in the public interest. I thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

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Frederick J. Bonte, M.D., FACR Director Nuclear Medicine Research Center

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