

HOSPITAL CONSULTANTS . NUCLEAR MEDICINE SPECIALISTS

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December 18, 1984

Glenda Jackson License Fee Management Branch Office of Administration Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555 34 DEC 26 MO:4

Re: Complaint regarding NRC License Fee Schedule and request to modify certain 10CFR Part 170 category classifications.

Ref: License #12-17503-01

Dear Ms. Jackson:

This to follow-up our phone conversation last week regarding the new NRC license fee schedule and what amount will be charged for license amendments and future renewal of my firm's NRC license.

Our consulting firm uses sealed sources for primarily calibrating survey meters and conducting some training courses. We also offer leak test services.

Currently, we appear to be classified under both "3N" for offering calibration services and "3P" for offering leak test services. Previously, I believe we were classified under 3L "All Other", in which renewals cost \$110 and amendments cost \$40. With the new "3N" and "3P" classifications, our renewal application would cost \$930 plus \$120 for a total of \$1,050. This represents about a ten fold (1,000) increase in fees.

Please consider the following justifications for this request to place calibration, training, and leak test service firms in only the "3P" category:

- 1. All of our byproduct material sealed sources combined will typically total less than 500 millicuries. The largest sources we have are less than 100 mCi of Cs-137 and typically less than 200 mCi of I-125 sealed sources. Both of these larger type sources are in "permanent" lead shielded devices where we do not handle the sources themselves. This does not represent serious exposure potential nor complicated license reviews.
- 2. For the past seven years that we have been monitoring exposures, the highest readings reported on our TLD total body badges have been around 50 millirem per calendar quarter and well below the 10% of MPD ALARA management program level. Our typical exposure reports are "Mirimal". This data supports our claim of low priority for radiation exposure potential and low risk of regulatory agency time involvement.

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The 3N plus 3P classification for our license is unfair and unjustifiable when compared to practically all of the other categories in Section 3 of the Part 170 fee schedule. For example, "3F" allows possession of "less than 10,000 Curies" for irradiation of materials and costs less than our current 3N plus 3P classification. In fact, our simple form of license currently costs just about as much as Broad Scope licenses! Certainly no one can claim our license is anywhere near as complex as a broad scope license. In terms of "Impact on Small Business", this current fee structure is devastating. We do not charge \$150 to \$400 per diagnostic exam as hospitals do, nor do we have grant funding, nor do we charge hefty fees for irradiation or other higher priced services. This current fee structure could wipe out our profit margin for providing these services for more than a full year. We do not believe it was the NRC's original intent to include calibration and related low cost services into the 3N category, but rather to keep these relatively simple type of licenses in the "All Other" category, now designated as "3P", We trust the MRC will consider this request and the justifications herein as reasonable. I look forward to hearing about the timing when such a decision will be made, in the event this may require more than two or three months. Sincerely. Stan Hule Stan A. Huber President SAH: amw