

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR

DEMANMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH MARY L. ELLIS. DIRECTOR

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January 11, 1990

DOCKETING & SERVICE. BRANCH

Secretary U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

Dear Mr. Secretary:

1 see #8

In addition to the comments in our January 9, 1990, letter concerning the proposed change to 10 CFR 170, we have the following comment:

PROPOSED RULE

(S4FR 4978

We feel very strongly that the exemption rule as it pertains to licensing and inspection fees is inappropriate. It takes our license reviewers and inspectors just as much time and effort to perform these services for one licensee as it does for another. Whether or not a licensee is a nonprofit organization or governmental entity should not enter into the rationale for assessment of fees. The bottom line is that they possess materials and should not be treated any differently than a private facility regarding assessment of fees.

We have determined that 25 percent of our potential fees is lost due to the exemption policy. We request that NRC strongly consider eliminating the fee exemption policy and that <u>all</u> possessors of any radioactive material are treated equally. This is not only fair to licensees, but to regulatory agencies who are making every effort to remain adequate and compatible on <u>limited</u> budgets.

We hope that NRC will seriously consider the above comments and take immediate action.

Sincerely,

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Bruce W. Hokel, Supervisor Radioactive Materials Program Bureau of Radiological Health

Concurrence:

Donald A. Flater, Chief Bureau of Radiological Health

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