

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2603

November 21, 1993

The Honorable Ivan Selin
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North Building
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Mr. Selin:

I am writing to you regarding licensing fees for nuclear devices. Let me explain further.

I have been contacted by constituents in my state who are concerned about the fee structure for the licensure of nuclear density meters. I understand that as a result of the 1990 Omnibus Reconciliation Act (OBRA), the NRC must charge fees in order to meet its budget expenses.

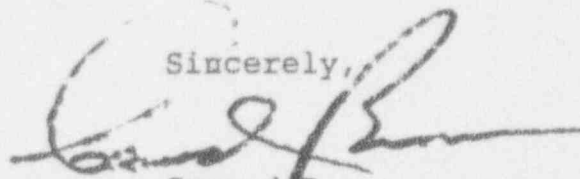
It is my understanding that fees are determined according to the size of the business, with "lower tier small entities" being defined as businesses with gross annual receipts of less than \$250,000. The next step up is "upper tier small businesses" with gross annual receipts of \$250,000 to \$3.5 million.

The business I am concerned about falls into the "upper tier small business"--barely. Because of this, the fees this business pays are 4.5 times higher than the fees it would pay had it grossed slightly less and fallen into the "lower tier" category. To me, this seems a high price to pay for falling into the "upper tier" category.

I am interested in working with you and with my colleagues to resolve this issue and am hoping that consideration can be given to alternative licensing fee scales--such as a "per-meter" formula not dependent on the size of the business.

I realize that the NRC will be submitting a report to Congress that may address this matter in mid-December. I will look forward to reviewing that report with these concerns in mind.

Sincerely,



Conrad Burns
United States Senator

CRB/tlp

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3. DOCUMENT CONTROL Sensitive (NRC Only) Non-sensitive
4. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE and SUBCOMMITTEES (if applicable)

Congressional Committee

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(a) _____
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(a) _____ 5520 (document name _____)
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