## IAPR 2 0 1994

University of Maryland College of Engineering ATTN: Mr. George E. Dieter Dean 1137 Engineering Classroom Bldg. College Park, Maryland 20742-3011

Gentlemen:

This is in response to your letter dated August 3, 1993, concerning annual fee Invoice AT-0460-93 for License R-70.

On March 17, 1994, the Commission published in the <u>Federal Register</u> a Notice of its decision to reinstate the annual fee exemption for nonprofit educational institutions.

Enclosed is a copy of a March 23, 1994, Notice to all licensees and the March 17, 1994, <u>Federal Register</u> Notice attached thereto which were recently sent to all Commission licensees.

Please review the Notice and contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely, (signed) Diane B. Dandois Diane B. Dandois, Chief License Fee & Debt Collection Branch Division of Accounting & Finance Office of the Controller

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Enclosure: As stated DISTRIBUTION B22 Facilities Annual Fee Correspondence (w/copy inc.) Invoice File AT-0460-93 License File R-70 (w/copy inc.) ED0-09231 NUDOCS (ML61) (w/copy inc.) 00-93-292 PDR **EBlack** DDandois DWeiss GJackson LTremper LF-92 9405020365 940420 PDR ADDCK 05000166 LFDCB R/F Ø DAF R/F PDR

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TOMORROW

TODAY 18941994

August 3, 1993

Secretary U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

Attn: Docketing and Services Branch

Re: License # R-70

## SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF LICENSE FEES

We have received your invoice for payment of fiscal year 1993 fees and we understand that FY94 invoices are currently in preparation. On behalf of the University of Maryland and the University's Nuclear Reactor Facility I request these fees be waived and the University of Maryland's Training Reactor be granted an exception waiver from future fees.

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We believe this request to be legitimate and justified under the recent court ruling that removed the basis of last year's blanket waiver for university reactors. In that ruling, the court identified education and training as legitimate bases for license fee waivers if certain criteria, such as training for the common good and safety, were met. We believe the University of Mary'and meets every test of the court's decision.

The University of Maryland has maintained a nuclear reactor for 33 years. Throughout its history, it has remained dedicated to the education and training of students of nuclear engineering and radiation science. At no time in the past three decades of education leadership has service work ever accounted for more than a few percent of its revenues or activities. The reactor's principal strength - training -- has focused every reactor director in its history to education. The result is a legacy recorded through our students -- a legacy of which the university and the country can be proud.

This past year, one african-american student and reactor staff member received his baccalaureate degree in nuclear engineering and entered law school at the University of West Virginia. As a sophomore, one of our women engineering students obtained her reactor operator's license. This year she graduated from the University of Maryland with honors and, as a winner of a prestigious National Science Foundation Fellowship Award, will attend the University of Illinois this fall. Other students are working for nuclear public utilities, architectural engineering and consulting companies, and for equipment vendors. But others have chosen careers in government -- The Army Research Laboratories, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Sandia National Laboratories, and of course, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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MARYLAND

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COLLEGE OF

ENGINEERING

1137 ENGINEERING

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COLLEGE PARK.

MARYLAND

20742-3011

Secretary U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission August 3, 1993 page 2

The University of Maryland Reactor first achieved criticality in 1960, the first in the State of Maryland. Today we are only one of many. But we are the only university reactor in the Washington, DC area where those in government and industry can come and learn by practical experience, the operations and physics of nuclear engineering and sciences. We are the only academic education and reactor training program in our nation's capital where government employees can receive advanced degrees in nuclear engineering.

The Maryland reactor is also an integral part of the next-generation training programs under development by the University of Maryland Office of Special Programs of University College. This unique and exceptional program provides training for students throughout the country. Through a combination of computer and classroom training, a student can receive a nuclear science degree while working full-time in the nuclear power or related industries. The program is the largest nuclear science program in the world with more than 700 students.

Students can take one week short courses or semester long operator training courses. Student operators can take our reactor from cold critical to full power more times in a week than a power reactor during its entire life. They can witness first hand negative and positive temperature coefficients, and directly measure the reactor's response to operator actions. They can see the effects of their actions in a safe educational environment where mistakes and surprises are important parts of the learning experience.

During the past year the reactor operated a total of 154 runs, consisting of: (1) 68 operator training runs; (2) 36 tour, lab and demonstration runs; (3) 15 calibration and maintenance runs; (4) 14 runs for nuclear engineering classes: and (5) 21 research and service runs. To perform these runs, the core produced 8.3 MWh, with a corresponding burn-up of 0.41 grams of uranium-235.

Operator training classes were conducted throughout the year for facility operator qualification and visiting power plant trainees. Seven undergraduate student operators were granted licenses by the NRC, three being qualified as Reactor Operators, and two being upgraded to Senior Reactor Operator. In addition, one faculty and one staff member were issued SRO certificates.

A substantial number of the 154 runs during the year were conducted for tours and demonstrations. These involved high school, university, and visiting University of inaryland students. In these group tours, a total of 616 students visited the Reactor Facility. Individual tours accounted for an additional 69 visitors.

A partial list of the organizations and groups that visited and toured the Maryland Reactor last year include: the National Science Foundation, the English 393 class, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Northern Virginia Community College, Environmental Safety Classes, Chemistry classes, Nuclear Engineering classes, Georgetown Preparatory School, UMCP MaryPirg, William Wirt Middle School, Westinghouse Corporation, ANS Second Look Fair, Middletown High School, Society of Women Engineers, Essex High School, Hannah Penn Middle School, Caltimore Gas and Electric Company, Boy Scouts of America, Northern High School, Lake Braddock High School, High Point High School, and the Society of Hispanic Engineers. Many of these groups account for more than one visit as it was common for a high school to return with groups from different classes.

Clearly, the Maryland Reactor supports the broad-based educational needs of the public and the students of elementary, high school, and college institutions. The facility supports University research needs, and in the process of education and research, provides a diverse stream of highly qualified engineers and

Secretary U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission August 3, 1993 page 3

scientists to the work force.

Finally, it is also true that this facility will almost certainly be unable to pay these current or projected future fees. Although not justification for waiver, it does mean that the facility will be forced to decommission. We believe that the loss of the only training facility of its kind and flexibility in the Washington, DC area is a loss of tremendous proportions. To force the closure of any one of the few remaining reactors is to lose a national resource.

I strongly urge your consideration of the above reasons for waiving the reactor fee. We firmly believe that the loss of this waiver will damage the ability of the University to train students and, in the long term, will cripple our country's ability to respond to critical national and international requirements.

Sincerely,

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George E. Dieter, Dean

cc: Commissioner Ivan Selin, Chairman Commissioner Kenneth Rogers Commissioner James R. Curtis Commissioner Forrest J. Remick Commissioner Gail de Plangue

UNV Y NUCLEAR REGULA UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001 July 27, 1993 NOTE TO COMMISSIONER ASSISTANTS OCM/IS OCM/KR OCM/GdeP X Dennis Rathbun Neil Jonsen Myron Karman \_ Karen Cyr cc Mort Fleishman X Eileen McKenna \_ Jack Scarborough Janet Kennedy Joel Lubenau

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Kay Whitfield

Connie Shum

Evelyn Williams

Jeanne Mullikin

- Jim Johnson \_\_\_ Tom Shedlosky \_\_ Dan Martin Janice Dumn-Lee
- \_\_\_ Bob McOsker
- \_\_\_ Gerry Schuetze
- \_\_\_ Donna Smith
- \_\_\_ Carol Augustino
- \_\_\_ Darlene Wright
- Judy Ledbetter
- Seth Coplan \_\_ Lil Van Cise Patty Whitten OCM/FR
- Steve Crockett ..... Regis Boyle
- Beth Doolittle
- X Jack Guttmann
- Jeanne Shoemaker -
- Joanne Field

FROM:

STATES

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James L. Blaha, AO/OEDO

SUBJECT:

FEE BILLS

The enclosed example of a university fee bill was provided to Commissioner Roger's office.

Jamés L. Blaha, AO/OEDO

Enclosure: As stated

CC: (w/o encl.) J. Taylor, EDO J. Sniezek, DEDR H. Thompson, DEDS J. Blaha, AO/OEDO J. Funches, OC SECY OGC OCA OPA

U. B. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR 171

Invoice No.: AT-0460-93 Invoice Date: 8/21/93

Paymont: Wire transfer or make check payable to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Reference Invoice No.)

> Contact: J.M. RODRIGUEZ Phone: 301/492-4200 Docket No. 050-00166

TO: UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DR. MARVIN L. ROUSH CHAIRMAN DEPT.OF CHEM.& NUC.ENGINEERING COLLEGE PARK MD 20742

ANNUAL FEE - FY 1993

Period: 10/01/92 - 09/30/93

FY 1993 Annual Fee \$ 62,100

In order to avoid the assessment of interest and administrative charges, payment must be received by the NRC no later than September 20, 1993.

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TERMS: Interest will accrue from the invoice date at the annual rate of 6.000%. Payment is due immediately. However, interest will be waived if payment is received within 30 days from the invoice date. Penalty and administrative charges will be assassed on a delinquent invoice. Additional terms and conditions are attached, if applicable.

MOTES: If there are any questions about the existence or amount of the debt, contact the individual named above. For NRC debt collection procedures, including interest and penalty provisions, see 31 U.S.C. 3717, # CFR 101-105, and 10 CFR 15.