Valparaiso University
Department of Physics and Astronomy
ATTN: Mr. Donald D. Koetke
Professor of Physics
Department of the Chair, RSO
Valparaiso, Indian 46383-6493

Gentlemen:

This is in response to your letter dated August 18, 1993, concerning annual fee Invoice AMOO413-93 for License SUD-705.

On March 17, 1994, the Commission published in the $\underline{\text{Federal Register}}$ 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, Federal Register 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. Dandole

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

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Alan F. Harre, University President

Roy A. Autensen, University Provost

Philip N. Gibertson, Dean College of Arts and Sciences

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DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

Valparaiso University Valparaiso, Indiana 46383 18 August 1993

Ms. Diane Dandois, Chief License Fee and Debt Collection Branch Office of the Controller U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Ms. Dandois:

In response to the NOTICE TO NONPROFIT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION LICENSEES dated 6 August 1993, we are herewith requesting an exemption from the annual fees assessed on our licenses: SUD-705 (\$8,920) and 13-06711-01 (\$2,120). Under (1) in the above NOTICE it is stated that "the Commission expects to approve shortly the pertinent considerations that should be addressed in exemption requests and will provide this guidance via direct mailing or notice in the Federal Register." We are advised by your offices that these "guidelines" are as yet unavailable. Nonetheless, it appears prudent for us to formally state our appeal at this time.

The rationale for this request is the inability of the institution to pay these fees. The amount of these fees is larger than our entire annual department operational budget for all courses in physics and astronomy.

To put this into perspective, Valparaiso University has had licenses with the NRC since 1959 and in particular, the SUD-705 has been in effect for these 35 years. During that period of time, we have helped to educate and prepare many students for productive careers in the nuclear power industry, for entrance into the U.S. Navy nuclear training program, for Ph.D.'s in nuclear physics, nuclear engineering, radiation health physics, nuclear medicine, elementary particle physics and more. This component of our physics curriculum has been exemplary and a model for other schools.

Failure to grant this requested exemption will cause Valparaiso University to cease many of these educational activities in nuclear science and leave these many students in the present classes as well as those to come without the benefit of this significant component in their educational development and career preparation. Fees of this magnitude are simply beyond our ability to remit on an annual basis. We run a lean, cost-effective, and excellent educational program in undergraduate nuclear science which results in benefits to many sectors of the United States industrial, medical, and scientific communities.

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DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

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Ms. Diane Dandois U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Page 2

We appeal for your favorable consideration of our request. If there are additional matters which should be addressed or you should wish that we restate our case based on the forthcoming "guidelines" please advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald D. Koetke, Professor of Physics Department Chair, Chief RSO

Roy A. Austensen, University Provost

Alan F. Harre, University President

Philip N. Gilbertson, Dean College of Arts and Sciences

c. James Taylor, Executive Director for Operations

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY NEILS SCIENCE CENTER

VALPARAISO, IN 46383 FAX: (219) 464-5489

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NameMs. Diane Daudois Company U.S. NRC
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FAX number: (301) 492-7197
This transmission sent on behalf of:
Name DONALD D. KOETKE Department Petysics & ASTRONOMY
Telephone: (219) 464- 5377
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