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(59 FR 24065)

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Secretary
Attn.: Docketing and Service Branch
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Subject: Request for Exemption of State-Owned Research Reactors
from Annual Fees (10CFR171.11)

May 25, 1994

Dear Sir:

A considerable part of my research work in the Department of Physics of the University of Rhode Island is being carried out at the research reactor of the Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission. With support by the Department of Energy and by the University, my students and I have set up a novel instrument at this reactor, a neutron reflectometer, which enables us to study surfaces of liquids and solid materials in a unique way. In addition to allowing us to investigate the basic physical properties of these samples near the surface, a wide range of technological applications of this technique are currently being explored at this and similar facilities all over the world. They range from the development of better paints to improved memory components for computers.

To allow us to continue this work at the Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center (RINSC), in spite of the increasingly frosty climate of research funding in this country, I urgently request your help by supporting continued exemption of state-owned research reactors from annual license fees which would otherwise apply to the RINSC reactor. Exemption from these fees has been proposed in the Federal Register dated May 10, 1994.

Sincerely

Albert Steyerl
Professor of Physics

cc: Senator John H. Chafee
Senator Claiborne D. Pell
Representative Ronald K. Machtley
Representative Jack Reed

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