



UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

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May 31, 1994

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

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
DOCKETING & SERVICE  
BRANCH

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter in support of the exemption from annual fees for state-owned research reactors as proposed in the 10 May 1994 *Federal Register*. The exemption is based on externalized benefits for educational institutions, nuclear power plants, individuals and state and local governments.

I am an Associate Research Professor at the University of Rhode Island. As part of our environmental research, we make extensive use of the 2 MW nuclear research reactor operated by the Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center (RINSC). These programs are largely funded by grants from Federal Agencies, including the National Science Foundation and the National Aeronautic and Space Administration. Over the past few years we have worked closely with scientists from Great Britain, France, China, Korea, and Japan for several of these projects. Thus one clear externalized benefit associated with the RINSC facilities is the development of collaborative environmental research on an international scale. In addition to this, our program involves the training of graduate students, and therefore our state-owned research reactor contributes to the education and training of students. I routinely give seminars and lectures on our research programs in the U.S. and abroad, and these too, are an externalized benefit made possible through support for RINSC.

Thank you for considering the educational, training, and research issues that favor the exemption for our state-owned research reactor.

Sincerely,

Richard Arimoto, Ph. D.

cc: T. Tehan

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