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NOV 3 1982

The Honorable Alan Simpson, Chairman
Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Commission is proposing to amend its regulations in 10 CFR Part 170 to revise the fees charged for facilities and materials inspections and review of applications for permits, licenses, amendments, renewals, topical reports and special projects. The revised schedule is designed to recover direct and indirect costs of providing special benefits to identifiable recipients of Commission services, and would more completely recover actual costs.

The proposed revision contains several modifications of the current fee schedules which were last revised on March 23, 1978. Fees for facility and major fuel cycle permits, licenses, amendments, and inspections would be based on actual costs with the ceiling eliminated.

All inspections would be subject to fees, except those investigations which result from unsubstantiated allegations. Currently only routine inspections are subject to fees.

A new area of fee assessment would be Part 55 applications for requalification and replacement examinations of reactor operators. Fees for these examinations would be based on actual cost and billed to the utility employing the operators.

Fees for small programs covered by materials licenses would continue to be on a fixed fee basis with Fiscal Year 1981 costs used for fee computation.

Costs excluded from recovery include those associated with research, generic licensing activities, standards development, export licensing, indemnification program, contested hearings, state and international programs, orders, and costs of such other activities which appear to provide an independent public benefit or where the beneficiary of the service is obscure.

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The Honorable Alan Simpson

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The revised fee schedules are set forth in the enclosed Notice of Proposed Rule Making which we are transmitting to the Federal Register. The Notice will allow 60 days for public comment after publication.

Sincerely,

/s/

Patricia G. Norry, Director
Office of Administration

Enclosure: As stated

cc: The Honorable Gary Hart

WOM

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