

BILL EMERSON

MEMBER OF CONGRESS
1ST DISTRICT, MISSOURI

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION

SELECT COMMITTEE ON HUNGER

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 1991

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515
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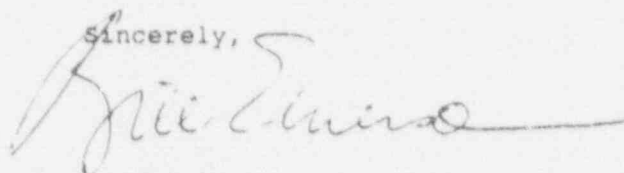
Kenneth Carr
Chairman
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have received the enclosed letter from my constituent, Mr. Frank Taylor. Mr. Taylor is very concerned about the excessive fee charged for a recent inspection of his compliance with his license for a nuclear gauge and has articulated them in the enclosed letter. I would like to ask for your careful review of these comments and your thoughtful considerations of the points that have been raised.

I would appreciate knowing of your response. Please advise PerryAnne Buchanan in my Washington office of your reply. Thank you very much for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



BILL EMERSON
Member of Congress

BE/pab
Enclosure

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PDR ORG NE ED
PDR

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TAYLOR ENGINEERING

P.O. BOX 674
108 W. COLUMBIA
FARMINGTON, MISSOURI 63640

(314) 756-9226

March 7, 1991

Congressman Emerson
438 Cannon Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Emerson;

I am enclosing a bill I received from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I have a very small consulting engineering business. The bill is for an inspection that was done by NRC to see if I was complying with the requirements for my license for a nuclear gauge which I use for measuring soil densities. The inspections are a good and necessary thing for anyone using a nuclear source.

The inspection went well. They only listed one minor violation in their report which was taken care of immediately and I issued a response letter.

My complaint is the cost of the inspection. The inspection took 1 to 2 hours. The NRC then issued 1 letter reporting their findings and I issued 1 response letter. I feel that \$920.00 is excessive.

I called NRC to voice my opinion about this excessive cost. I was informed that they have been getting numerous complaints from small businesses about the cost. Maybe it would be wise to listen to the people that pay their wages through fees and taxes. I was also informed that they take an average of inspection expenses. A more complicated inspection that takes 2 days costs the same as my 1 to 2 hour inspection.

The most shocking response was that some of the small businesses are quitting this type of testing work because the inspection fees are getting prohibitive for a small business. It is sad that the government we submit a substantial portion of our earnings to is trying to price us out of business. I doubt that this is the intended purpose of our government, especially during a recession when the survival of a business is difficult enough.

I object to the averaging to determine a fee. A small company that has one gauge and grosses \$100,000.00 per year and only requires 1 to 2 hours for an inspection should not be billed the same as a company that has 20 gauges and grosses 2 million a year and requires 2 days for an inspection.

I don't know if you will be inclined to agree with me and ultimately assist me with this issue. At the very least I will have the satisfaction that I exercised my rights and voiced my opinion. Thank you for your time. By copy of this letter I am voicing my opinion to the NRC and requesting that they respond with a more reasonable bill.

Sincerely,

Frank Taylor

Frank Taylor

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
INSPECTION FEE INVOICE
TV LFR 170.31

Invoice Date
=====

03/05/91

Invoice Number
=====

000453-91

Attention: MR. FRANK TAYLOR

TAYLOR ENGINEERING
108 WEST COLUMBIA
FARMINGTON, MO 63640

License Number =====	Date of Inspection =====	Lic. Fee Category =====	Code AA905 =====	Amount Due =====
24-26195-01	01/11/91	3P	INS-R	\$ 920
TOTAL FEE THIS BILLING \$				920

Terms and conditions are attached.

Make Checks Payable To:
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of the Controller
Division of Accounting and Finance
Washington, DC 20555

Questions? Call Ms. Marnella Rodriguez at 301/492-4200