

PAID
4-5-91

E. 3820 Broadway Spokane, Washington 99202

budinger & associates
geotechnical & material engineer

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
License Fee and Debt Collection Branch
Division of Accounting and Finance
Office of the Controller
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

We have been NRC licensed now for about 10 years, and have been inspected several times. The most recent inspection was conducted by James L. Montgomery on September 10, 1990. As our paperwork and facilities were in proper order, Mr. Montgomery was able to conduct a thorough and professional inspection in about fifteen (15) minutes.

To our amazement, we received a bill for this inspection at \$920.00. While we realize that government inspectors are very valuable, it is hard to imagine that anyone with less than Cabinet status might be worth the \$3,680 per hour that we have been charged. As there are about 12 holders of NRC licenses in the immediate area, they all could be inspected in about a day and a half including local travel. Consequently, the NRC can bill about \$11,000 for one visit to the Spokane area.

We believe these charges to be not only excessive, but outrageous. We do not understand why the government could not, as private industry must, coordinate its efforts to take full advantage of its time, prorating travel expenses among the clientele to be served in the immediate area.


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(509) 535-8641
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F.C. Budinger PE
J. Andrew Siemens PE
James P. Murphy

We are a small struggling firm, and cannot accept unexpected expenses on this order. Enclosed find our check for \$920.00, which is submitted under protest. Please keep our license in effect until it expires, and then allow it to drop, as we cannot afford more of these charges.

Sincerely,



F.C. Budinger, PE

FCB/pmr

cc: Senator Slade Gorton
Senator Brock Adams
Representative Tom Foley
Admiral James D. Watkins