STEWART ENGINEERING, INC.

Geotechnical Engineering 131 Hekili Street Suite 207 email: sei@stewartengr.com **Construction Services**

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February 18, 2020

Accounts Reveivable/Payable Branch (T9E-10) Office of the Chief Financial Officer U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 11545 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852-2378

Subject: Appeal of Prescribed Fees

License #: 53-29225-01

LFB 20-2222 Docket 03037132

In accordance with 10 CFR 170.51

Dear Sir or Madamme:

I ask that the prescribed annual fee of \$4,500.00 for our annual NRC license be reduced to \$900 given our unfortunate financial circumstances.

Stewart Engineering, Inc. lost our best and longest-running client in mid-2018 and our Gross Receipts (GR) have dropped sharply since then as our outstanding contracts with the client have concluded over time. Our GR in 2019 equaled \$474,724, which is below the \$485,000 threshold for the NRC-prescribed \$900 annual fee. We expect our revenue in 2020 to further decline.

Our Gross Receipts for the last three years are as follows:

2017: \$1,136,154

2018: \$738,638 (34.9% decrease) 2019: \$474,724 (35.7% decrease)

2020 (projected): \$308,571 (35% decrease)

We ask that the Chief Financial Officer consider allowing a one-time exemption for Stewart Engineering, Inc. to pay the lowest allowable fee of \$900 per NRC Form 526, which will help us stay solvent and maintain employment of our staff during this period of transition. We would appreciate the favor of your response.

Please contact me if you have questions, or if you need additional information.

Very truly yours,

Stewart Engineering, Inc.

License #: 53-29225-01

Matthew R. Lamon, P.E.

Vice President