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JUL 15 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Clare Miles, Office of Public Affairs

FROM: William O. Miller, Chief, License Fee Management Branch, ADM

SUBJECT: DRAFT PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT - LICENSE FEES

Enclosed is a draft announcement covering the revised license fee schedule (final rule). The paper has been circulated to interested offices for comment and/or concurrence by close of business July 27, 1983.

We will appreciate your concurrence or suggestions on the draft announcement.

Original Signed by
Wm. O. Miller

William O. Miller, Chief
License Fee Management Branch
Office of Administration

Enclosure:
Draft Announcement

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DATE	7/17/83					

NRC REVISES LICENSE FEE SCHEDULE

On November 22, 1982, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission published in the Federal Register for comment a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to revise and update its fees for review of applications for licenses, permits, amendments, renewals, approvals, special projects, reactor operator testing and for inspections. The comment period expired February 8, 1983.

The Commission has considered all comments received, and is issuing a final rule. Several changes have been made in the final rule. The principal changes are the re-imposition of a ceiling or maximum fee in those instances where fees are based on full costs and where a maximum is appropriate; re-imposition of billing frequencies for materials license inspections; and the elimination of fees for investigations performed by the NRC Office of Investigations.

NRC fees are designed to recover direct and indirect costs of providing special benefits to identifiable recipients such as licensees and applicants. The regulatory services which provide the benefits include the processing of applications and requests for permits, licenses, amendments, renewals, approvals, special projects, reactor operator testing, and inspections. Fees include the costs per professional staff hour of effort of each NRC office directly involved in specific licensing and inspection activities and the costs of contractual services. The new schedule is designed to more completely recover full costs for licensing reviews and inspections.

ENCLOSURE 6

Some of the major differences in the revised schedule and the 1978 fee schedule (last revision) are:

Current charges for reactor construction permits and licenses are based on Fiscal 1977 costs while the revised schedule is based on Fiscal Year 1981 costs.

Fees are currently assessed for routine inspections only. Under the revised schedule fees will be assessed for all inspections, including non-routine inspections, except investigations conducted by the NRC Office of Investigations.

Another new area of fee assessment is for applications for requalification and replacement examinations for reactor operators. Fees for such requalification and replacement exams would be based on full cost up to a maximum and billed to the utility employing the operators.

Reactor license amendments and approvals which now are classed by category and subject to fixed fee would be subject to fees based on full cost up to a maximum for each review.

Reports (topicals and others) are currently based on full costs, but topicals are subject to an upper limit. The limit for topicals would be increased based on current costs.

Fees for radioisotope licenses (small materials programs) and inspection of these programs are continued on a fixed fee basis, but they have been adjusted based on Fiscal Year 1981 costs.

The revised fee schedule and other changes to Part 170 of NRC regulations will become effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.