

The table below offers resource estimates for common licensing and oversight services. This information is being offered to enhance stakeholder awareness of the costs associated with these services. It will also aid licensees and applicants in the planning and budgeting of future applications. The NRC encourages licensees and applicants to engage early in the process when submitting new actions. The table will be updated on a biennial basis.

The estimated hours shown in this chart represent NRC professional staff hours associated with project management, safety specialists, safeguards specialists, and environmental specialists. The distribution of time among professional staff members (job categories) working on a project vary within each activity and from project to project. However, a single professional hourly rate is applied to all hours regardless of which professional staff contributed these hours. Indirect costs are included in the applied hourly rate as published in the current NRC Fee Rule. The average, high, and low estimates of hours shown in this chart are only intended to provide an approximate estimate of the total cost of NRC work on a billable activity based upon historical data.

In addition, contractors are used to assist the NRC to complete projects. Contractors can be used to supplement NRC staff or provide a particular expertise required for the project. Similar to the hourly estimates, the average, high, and low estimates for contractor costs shown here are only intended to provide an approximate estimate of total contractor billable costs on an activity based upon historical data.

Fuel Facility Regulatory Action Cost Estimates (May 2023)

Major Licensing Action	Billed Number of NRC Direct Staff Hours: Low Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Number of NRC Direct Staff Hours: High Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Number of NRC Direct Staff Hours: Average Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Contractor Costs: Low Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Contractor Costs: High Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Contractor Costs: Average Estimate of Level of Effort
COST ESTIMATES FOR FUEL FACILITIES BUSINESS LINE						
Fuel Fabrication - High Enriched Uranium						
License Renewal Cost	1,700	3,000	2,250	\$0	\$600,000	\$300,000
License Amendment Cost ¹	25	1,800	600	\$0	\$0	\$0
Project Management (annual)	280	800	600	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fuel Fabrication - Low Enriched Uranium						
License Renewal Cost	1,000	3,500	2,000	\$0	\$600,000	\$300,000
License Amendment Cost	20	1,000	250	\$0	\$0	\$0
Project Management (annual)	160	400	300	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enrichment Facility						
Initial Application Cost	11,250	14,500	13,000	\$600,000	\$2,500,000	\$1,550,000
License Amendment Cost ¹	20	500	150	\$0	\$600,000	\$300,000
Project Management (annual)	80	1,600	600	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conversion Facility						
Initial Application Cost (single action, International Isotopes)			6,000			\$1,000,000
License Renewal Cost (single action, Honeywell)			3,000			\$300,000

¹ These cost estimates went up due to more complex amendments submitted in 2020 and 2021.

Fuel Facility Regulatory Action Cost Estimates (May 2023)

Major Licensing Action	Billed Number of NRC Direct Staff Hours: Low Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Number of NRC Direct Staff Hours: High Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Number of NRC Direct Staff Hours: Average Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Contractor Costs: Low Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Contractor Costs: High Estimate of Level of Effort	Billed Contractor Costs: Average Estimate of Level of Effort
License Amendment Cost ²	20	300	75			\$0
Project Management (annual)	30	750	390			\$0
Critical Mass – Non Fuel Cycle						
Initial Application Cost	450	800	550	\$0	\$0	\$0
License Amendment Cost	10	120	50	\$0	\$0	\$0
Project Management (annual)	20	60	50	\$0	\$0	\$0
Product Line - Inspection³						
Routine Safety Inspection – Quarterly inspection reports that consolidate the results of several routine inspections.						
High Enriched Uranium Facility Inspection Cost	350	1,200	660	\$0	\$0	\$0
Low Enriched Uranium Facility Inspection Cost	275	1,420	1,125	\$0	\$0	\$0
Routine Safeguards Inspection – Stand-alone report for a single inspection usually within one week.						
Physical Security Inspection Cost	20	120	110	\$0	\$0	\$0
Material Control & Accounting Inspection Cost	150	300	180	\$0	\$0	\$0
Reactive Inspection – Special inspections conducted after events that require prompt follow-up action. The number of inspectors and the duration of the inspection varies.						
Reactive inspection Cost	150	1,600	800	\$0	\$0	\$0
Resident Inspector Indirect Cost	600	680	650	\$0	\$0	\$0

² These cost estimates went up due to more complex amendments submitted in 2020 and 2021.

³ The direct staff hours include inspection preparation, documentation, and travel hours. These hours are in addition to the “direct inspection effort” defined in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2600, “Fuel Cycle Facility Operational Safety and Safeguards Inspection Program,” and in the associated inspection procedures. Annual hours may fluctuate based on which inspection procedures are required to be used in inspections in a given year. Inspections may be performed on a semi-annual, annual, biennial, triennial, or quintennial frequency.