



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 11, 2018

MEMORANDUM TO: Robert K. Johnson, Chief
Fuel Manufacturing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards,
and Environmental Review
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Kevin M. Ramsey, Senior Project Manager **/RA/**
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Office of Nuclear Material Safety
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SUBJECT: PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY RE: FUEL FACILITIES
FEE MATRIX

DATE OF MEETING: December 13, 2017
2:00 – 4:00 pm

PLACE: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Headquarters
Rockville, MD

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the method used to calculate annual fees for fuel facilities and solicit input on potential changes to the method.

ATTENDEES:

A list of attendees is attached.

BACKGROUND:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff explained that this topic has been coordinated with internal NRC stakeholders and this is the beginning of its efforts to engage external stakeholders. No decision has been made to change the method used to calculate annual fees for fuel facilities. No changes will be included in the proposed

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rule for Fiscal Year 2018 Fees (expected to be published in January). The NRC values the input of external stakeholders and wants to allow time for a meaningful exchange of ideas. The NRC staff will review external stakeholder input and incorporate stakeholder perspectives as appropriate.

DISCUSSION:

Two handouts were provided to meeting participants. They included a slide presentation and an analysis of guidance documents applicable to fuel facilities. The documents are available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession Number ML17339A108. The NRC staff reviewed the budget for the Fuel Facilities Business Line and explained the basis for the amount to be recovered through annual fees. Participants stated that they would be interested in receiving additional information explaining why resources were budgeted for different areas such as State and Tribal Programs.

The NRC staff presented information on the matrix used to calculate annual fees currently and answered questions from participants. Two sets of data were gathered to see if the fees calculated by the matrix could be validated. The data included billing data for direct services and an inventory of documents containing guidance and procedures. When asked if it was valid to compare the data results to the matrix results, some participants said no, while others suggested breaking down the data in more detail. The NRC staff stated that it would be interested in ideas regarding other data it should analyze.

The NRC staff presented information on possible alternative approaches to calculating annual fees. The alternatives included (1) continuing use of the fee matrix, (2) distributing annual fees uniformly, and (3) using a combination of uniform and proportional methods. There were numerous comments regarding the different approaches. Some participants stated that NRC should continue to use the fee matrix and some stated that the fee matrix was not fair. It was suggested that High Enriched Uranium Fuel Fabrication facilities could be removed and addressed separately. It was also suggested that Uranium Conversion facilities could be moved to the Uranium Recovery business line. The NRC staff stated that it would be interested in ideas regarding other approaches it should consider.

RESULTS:

The NRC staff stated that it has been tasked with providing a status report to senior management in February and any additional comments could be included if they were received in January. Several participants stated that they intended to provide additional comments.

Enclosures:

1. Agenda
2. Attendee List
3. Meeting Slides (ML17339A108)
4. Document Inventory
5. Meeting Transcript

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