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Department of Radiology  
Section of Nuclear Medicine  
TRANSMIT

Samuel Chilk, Secretary,  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

ATT: Docketing and Service Branch

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to express my views concerning the marked increase in user's fees which have been imposed during the past two years. I wish to describe to you my first-hand experience with the impact of these fees on a number of institutions and nuclear medicine practices in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Currently I serve as Professor of Radiology and Director of Nuclear Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin with responsibilities as Chief of Nuclear Medicine at the Milwaukee County Medical Complex and the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center. These two institutions each operate as separate users and therefore each have paid the increased fees.

At the Milwaukee County Medical Complex the increased fees have impacted on the budgets for nuclear medicine imaging, nuclear medicine therapy, and basic science research using

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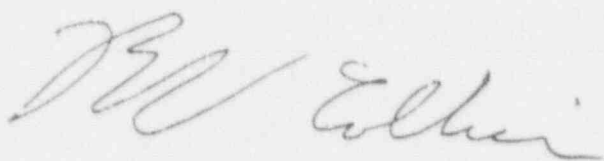
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radionuclides. Funds have not been diverted, however, from radiation safety which actually has had a substantial increase in funding during the same period of time. The final impact has been to reduce clinical services and research. At the Zablocki VA Medical Center, a similar negative impact on clinical nuclear medicine services and research has occurred.

On consultation with practitioners in Southeastern Wisconsin, I have noted an increasing reluctance to open new private nuclear medicine facilities such as imaging centers or office practice nuclear cardiology. This is attributed in large part to the licensing fees.

I very much appreciate the vital services performed by the NRC. Public health and safety in addition to the highest standards of nuclear medicine practice and radionuclide research depends heavily on NRC involvement. Nonetheless, as a point of information I wish to make clear the impact which increase fees have had in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Yours truly,



B. David Collier, Jr., M.D.

Professor of Radiology

Chief, Nuclear Medicine