



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

October 8, 1996

The Honorable Lauch Faircloth, Chairman
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private
Property and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the Subcommittee are copies of a notice of final rule regarding maximum civil penalties and a notice of related revisions to the NRC's Enforcement Policy. These documents will be published in the Federal Register.

In the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-134, 110 Stat. 1321-358, 373), Congress requires that the head of each Federal agency make adjustments by regulation to the agency's maximum civil penalties by October 23, 1996.

In accordance with this statutory requirement, the final rule increases the maximum civil penalty per violation under section 234 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (AEA), as amended, from \$100,000 to \$110,000. As also required by the statutory formula, the final rule amends the NRC's implementing regulations for the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act by increasing the maximum civil penalty per violation from \$5,000 to \$5,500.

As a result of the adjustments to the maximum civil penalty under the AEA, the NRC's Enforcement Policy is revised to reflect the new maximum civil penalty. The revised Enforcement Policy also makes corresponding changes in the amounts of the lower base civil penalties that the Commission has approved for certain types of licensees, particularly small businesses, and certain lower severity levels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dennis K. Rathbun", is written over the typed name.

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures: 1. Final Rule Notice
2. Enforcement Policy Revision Notice

cc: Senator Bob Graham

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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October 8, 1996

The Honorable Dan Schaefer, Chairman
Subcommittee Energy and Power
Committee on Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures: 1. Final Rule Notice
 2. Enforcement Policy Revision Notice

cc: Rep. Frank Pallone