



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

April 22, 1997

William Beaumont Hospital
ATTN: Cheryl Culver Schultz, M.S.
Radiation Safety Officer
3601 West Thirteen Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48073-6769

Dear Ms. Schultz,

I am responding to your November 27, 1996, request that the anniversary date for your License No. 21-01333-01 be changed from November to January of each year to allow timely payment of the annual fee. The bases for your request are that your fiscal year begins January 1 of each year and your budget includes funds to pay one annual fee to the NRC per year. You further stated that your budget does not include the funds to pay the invoice you received in November 1996, for which payment was due in December 1996, until January 1997.

The anniversary month for annual fee billing purposes is the month in which the license was originally issued; therefore, the anniversary month cannot be changed. In the final revision to 10 CFR 171 for FY 1996, which incorporated the change to billing based on anniversary month, the NRC stated:

Under this final rule, some materials licensees will unavoidably receive two annual fee bills during the 12 month transition period. For example, a materials licensee who paid its FY 1996 annual fee bill in May 1996, the planned effective date of the FY 1996 fee rule, will receive a bill six months later in November 1996 (FY 1997) if November is the anniversary month of that materials license. In this example, the licensee will pay the same annual fee in FY 1997 (November) as he paid in FY 1996 (May). Materials licensees will continue to pay fees at the FY 1996 rate in FY 1997 until such time as the FY 1997 final fee rule becomes effective. Each bill would be for a different fiscal year, therefore, no double billing would occur.

The NRC believes that the efficiencies gained by billing certain materials annual fees throughout the year as well as having materials licensees know exactly when they will be billed each year for the annual fee outweigh the inconveniences that may be caused during the transition period. //

Based on the information you provided, in accordance with 10 CFR 15.37(k)(4), I am granting a one-time extension to the due date for Invoice No. AM0793-97 to January 6, 1997, the date payment of the invoiced amount was received. Invoice AM0793-97 is considered paid in full.

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C. Schultz

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We realize the change in billing practice caused budgeting problems for licensees who were billed twice within a few months for the annual fees for the two fiscal years affected by the transition. However, since licensees were notified of the change in FY 1996, and are now billed once in a 12-month period, we do not believe the problem should recur after FY 1997, the transition year.

If you have any further questions, please contact Glenda Jackson at 301-415-6057.

Sincerely,

Original signed by James Turdici

James Turdici, Director
Division of Accounting and Finance
Office of the Controller

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