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# NRC NEWS

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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## **NRC ISSUES FINAL LICENSING, INSPECTION AND ANNUAL FEES RULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is amending its regulations to reflect the licensing, inspection and annual fees it will charge its applicants and licensees for fiscal year (FY) 2009.

The agency is required by Congress to recover for the U.S. Treasury most of its annual appropriated budget through two types of fees. One is for specific NRC services, such as licensing and inspection activities. This fee is calculated using the current hourly rate multiplied by the time spent by staff performing a service. The other is an annual fee paid by licensees, which recovers generic regulatory expenses and other costs not recovered through fees for specific services. These fees are contained in NRC regulations 10 CFR Part 170 (fees for license-specific services) and 10 CFR Part 171 (annual fees). These fees are paid to the NRC and transferred to the U.S. Treasury's general fund.

By law, the NRC must recover, through fees to applicants and licensees, 90 percent of its budget authority for FY 2009 (Oct. 1, 2008 - Sept. 30, 2009), less the amounts appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund for high-level radioactive waste activities and from general funds for waste-incident-to-reprocessing and generic homeland security activities. The total amount of fees to be recovered by Sept. 30 is approximately \$870.6 million, about \$91.5 million more than in FY 2008.

The FY 2009 fee rule, published today in the *Federal Register*, includes fees based upon the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009. Approximately one third of the fees will be billed for specific services (Part 170) and the remaining two thirds will be billed to annual fees (Part 171). The hourly rate for Part 170 activities increases about 8 percent from \$238 to \$257 per hour. The increase in FY 2009 fees is due primarily to an increase in reactor license renewals and new uranium enrichment and recovery licensing activities. The NRC decreased fees for small entities in FY 2009.

The NRC is continuing its efforts to keep its fees as low as possible by ensuring its programs are conducted efficiently and effectively and requesting from Congress only the resources necessary to perform its mission of protecting people and the environment.

The FY 2009 annual fees are categorized by types of licensees/applicants and include the following:

| <u>Class/Category</u>  | <u>FY 2009 Annual Fee</u> |
|--|---------------------------|
| Operating Power Reactors (including Spent Fuel Storage/Reactor Decommissioning annual fee) . . . . . | \$4,625,000               |
| Spent Fuel Storage/Reactor Decommissioning . . . . .   | \$122,000                 |
| Test and Research Reactors (Non-power Reactors) . . . . .  | \$87,600                  |
| High-Enriched Uranium Fuel Facility . . . . .  | \$4,691,000               |
| Low-Enriched Uranium Fuel Facility . . . . .   | \$1,649,000               |
| UF6 Conversion Facility . . . . .  | \$969,000                 |
| Conventional Mills . . . . .   | \$31,200                  |

Typical Materials Users:

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Radiographers . . . . .                     | \$22,700 |
| Well Loggers . . . . .                      | \$9,700  |
| Industrial Gauges (Category 1C) . . . . .   | \$2,700  |
| Broad Scope Medical (Category 7B) . . . . . | \$36,300 |

NRC estimates that the FY 2009 annual fees will be paid by 104 nuclear power plant licensees, 4 non-power reactors, 19 spent fuel storage/reactor-in-decommissioning facilities, 11 fuel cycle facilities, 7 uranium recovery facilities and approximately 3,800 material licensees.

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NOTE: Anyone wishing to take photos or use a camera to record any portion of a NRC meeting should contact the Office of Public Affairs beforehand.

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