

**From:** Kimberly Gruss  
**To:** INTERNet: pritt@bellsouth.net  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 20, 1999 5:47 PM  
**Subject:** A few questions regarding texture analysis of Zr alloys

Dear Dr. Rittenhouse:

My name is Kim Gruss and I am a materials engineer working at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I have some questions regarding texture analysis of zirconium alloys. Although some of my Master's thesis work included texture analysis of Zr-Nb sheet material, I have a few very specific questions that I was hoping an industry expert could answer. So, I asked one of my friends at ORNL if he knew anyone who was knowledgeable in this area. One of his friends (Ken Farrell) referred me to you and indicated that you have done a lot of work in this area.

In particular, I have a few questions regarding the use of texture analysis to qualify zirconium alloys for use in commercial reactor fuel assemblies. I am also interested in getting a better appreciation for whether texture analyses can inadvertently be used to qualify substandard material. Would you have some time to talk to me via teleconference call? I would be happy to call you at a mutually convenient time.

If you would like to contact me by phone, my number is 301-415-8586. My other contact information is provided below. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kimberly Ann Gruss, Ph.D.  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop O13-D13  
Washington, DC 20555  
(301) 415-8586  
kag1@nrc.gov

A/10