



May 1, 2002
NRC:02:025

Document Control Desk
ATTN: Chief, Planning, Program and Management Support Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Error in Safety Evaluation for BAW-10231

Ref.: 1. Letter, Leslie Barnett (NRC) to James F. Mallay (Framatome ANP) "Safety Evaluation (SE) of Framatome ANP Topical Report BAW-10231P, "COPERNIC Fuel Rod Design Computer Code" (TAC No. MA6792), April 18, 2002.

The NRC issued a safety evaluation for BAW-10231 on April 19, 2002. On the initial review of the document, the text appeared to be satisfactory. During a more detailed review, Framatome ANP discovered one significant error in Section 5, "Fuel Densification and Swelling Models." On page 6, the SE states, "...one model for the Integrated Dry Route (IDR) and Ammonium Uranyl Carbonate (AUC) fuel employed by FCF in the U.S. FCF also has a separate densification and swelling model for the Ammonium Di-Uranate (ADU) fuel but this fuel is not used commercially and there are no plans for its use in U.S. plants." These statements are incorrect.

Apparently, the two terms, "Ammonium Uranyl Carbonate (AUC)" and "Ammonium Di-Uranate (ADU)" were inadvertently interchanged. If the two terms are switched in the above quote from page 6, the statements would be correct. Specifically, one densification and swelling model is used in COPERNIC for IDR and ADU processed fuel. We have never used, nor are we planning to use, AUC fuel.

Framatome respectfully requests that a corrected SE be issued superceding the one issued on April 18.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'James F. Mallay'.

James F. Mallay, Director
Regulatory Affairs

cc: Drew Holland – NRC
Project No. 693

D045



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