

July 10, 2002

Mr. James Mallay
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Framatome ANP, Richland, Inc.
2101 Horn Rapids Road
Richland, WA 99352

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REVIEW OF TOPICAL REPORT
BAW-2374, REVISION 1, "RISK-INFORMED ASSESSMENT OF ONCE-
THROUGH STEAM GENERATOR TUBE THERMAL LOADS DUE TO BREAKS
IN REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM UPPER HOT LEG LARGE BORE PIPING"

Dear Mr. Mallay:

The Babcock and Wilcox Owners Group (B&WOG) submitted BAW-2374, Revision 0 to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for review by letter dated July 7, 2000. Following a meeting in January 2001, the B&WOG submitted Revision 1 to BAW-2374 by letter dated March 12, 2001. Since the last submittal, significant dialogue has taken place between NRC and the B&WOG on this issue. By letter dated June 11, 2002, you requested that this topical report be approved in order to relieve members of the B&WOG of unique licensing conditions that have been previously imposed on once-through steam generator repair requests. Also, in your June letter you requested that NRC management provide assistance in resolution of a few issues that may involve important policy matters.

The staff continues to review BAW-2374, Revision 1. The staff's efforts to date have identified numerous issues which are best characterized as being technically complex. As a result of this complexity more time than was originally anticipated is required to complete our review. To expedite completing our review, the NRC staff proposes to have additional dialogue with the B&WOG. Mr. Drew Holland will be contacting you to establish a conference call to provide a preliminary understanding on the NRC's proposed approach to address several staff concerns. Following receipt of the staff concerns, it would seem appropriate to arrange a meeting with B&WOG representatives to discuss the staff's technical issues. After these discussions are held, the staff will be able to develop a schedule for completing this review. The cognizant NRC managers have been briefed on this issue and agree with this approach.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Zwolinski, Director
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 693

cc: See next page

B&W Owners Group

Project No. 693

cc:

Mr. Howard C. Crawford
AmerGen Energy Company
Route 441 South
P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057-0480

Mr. David J. Firth
Manager, B&W Owners Group Services
Framatome ANP
3315 Old Forest Road
Lynchburg, VA 24501

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