

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

July 24, 2002

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF FRAMATOME ANP TOPICAL REPORT
BAW-10238(NP), REVISION 0, "MOX FUEL DESIGN REPORT"
FOR NRC STAFF REVIEW (TAC NO. MB5059)

Dear Mr. Mallay:

By letter dated April 30, 2002, Framatome ANP submitted for staff review Topical Report (TR) BAW-10238(NP), Revision 0, "MOX Fuel Design Report." The letter requested that the NRC complete the review of the TR by May 1, 2003. It also requested, consistent with the NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Instruction LIC-500, "Processing Requests for Reviews of Topical Reports," that the NRC provide an estimate of the review hours, as well as target dates for any requests for additional information (RAIs) and for completion of the safety evaluation (SE) for the TR.

The NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of the TR. The staff has determined that it meets the criteria in LIC-500 for acceptance for staff review and that it is complete enough for the staff to begin a technical review. The staff expects to issue RAIs (if any) by September 30, 2002. The staff estimates that the review will require approximately 120 review hours and the target date for issuance of the SE will be March 15, 2003. The review hour estimate does not include time required to coordinate the review and develop and issue the SE. To enable the staff to complete the review on the schedule described above, close and frequent communications between our technical staffs will be required.

If you have any questions, please call me at (301) 415-1436.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Drew Holland, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 693

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