

December 23, 2002

Mr. Guy Turluer
Engineer
Institut de Radioprotection et de Sûreté Nucléaire
Fontenay-aux-Roses et Clamart
B.P. 17 - 92262 Fontenay-aux-Roses Cedex France

Dear Mr. Turluer:

On December 3, 2002, you participated in the technical exchange between staff from the French Regulatory Authorities and staff from the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. The main purpose of this technical exchange was to discuss the regulatory framework in France under which primary reactor system components are designed and fabricated, specifically as it applies to the design and fabrication of reactor vessel heads. We undertook this activity to support the NRC's inspection of the replacement of the North Anna, Unit 2 reactor vessel head with a head manufactured to the French RCC-M Code.

As the leader of the NRC's team, I want to thank you for your efforts at making this a successful exchange of information. Based, in part, on your participation in these discussions, the NRC staff has a better understanding of the regulatory controls and oversight used in France for the design and fabrication of reactor vessel components. This understanding significantly contributed to the success of the meeting the NRC had with Framatome ANP on December 4 and 5, 2002. We will continue to use the information we gained from our discussions as we proceed with our inspection activities related to the replacement of the North Anna, Unit 2 reactor vessel head.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Nakoski, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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