April 7, 2003

Mr. James F. Mallay
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Framatome ANP
3315 Old Forest Road
P.O. Box 10935
Lynchburg, VA 24506-0935

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI) - TOPICAL REPORT BAW-10239(P), REVISION 0, "ADVANCED MARK-BW FUEL ASSEMBLY MECHANICAL DESIGN TOPICAL REPORT" (TAC NO. MB7551)

Dear Mr. Mallay:

By letter dated April 30, 2002, Framatome ANP submitted for staff review Topical Report BAW-10239(P), Revision 0, "Advanced Mark-BW Fuel Assembly Mechanical Design Topical Report." The staff has completed its preliminary review of BAW-10239(P), Revision 0, and has identified a number of items for which additional information is needed to continue its review. This request was discussed with you on April 2, 2003, and it was agreed that a response would be provided within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Partial submittals would be welcomed to minimize delays.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790, we have determined that the enclosed RAI does not contain proprietary information. However, we will delay placing the RAI in the public document room for a period of ten (10) working days from the date of this letter to provide you with the opportunity to comment on the proprietary aspects only. If you believe that any information in the enclosure is proprietary, please identify such information line by line and define the basis pursuant to the criteria of 10 CFR 2.790.

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. 728

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TOPICAL REPORT BAW-10239(P), REVISION 0,

"ADVANCED MARK-BW FUEL ASSEMBLY MECHANICAL DESIGN TOPICAL REPORT"

PROJECT NO. 728

1. Pages 3-2 and 3-6. Please describe in greater detail how the attachments at the guide thimble/top nozzle interface allow the top nozzle to be removed for fuel assembly reconstitution.

2. Page 3-3. Please describe the projected impacts of increasing the pellet theoretical density beyond the current 96 percent.

3. Page 3-4. Please describe how the spring and dimple edges are coined.

4. Page 3-8. What is the impact of the mid span mixing grids on the assembly cross flow during mixed core arrangements?

5. Page 3-17. What is the function of the keying windows?