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FRAMATOME ANP, Inc.

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

Request for Approval of BAW-10242(NP) Revision 0, "Zero Power Physics Testing for B&W Reactors"

Framatome ANP requests the NRC's review and approval for referencing in licensing actions the topical report BAW-10242(NP) Revision 0, "Zero Power Physics Testing for B&W Reactors." Framatome ANP has developed a modified reload startup physics testing program for B&W designed reactors. This method is based in part on work done by the ANS-19.6.1 working group in revising its 1997 standard.

A CD containing the topical report is enclosed.

The principal modification to the ZPPT program for which Framatome ANP is seeking approval consists of changing the measurement of Control Rod Groups (CRGs) 5, 6, and 7 to only CRGs 6 and 7 to determine worth. Other modifications to the testing program, which are described for NRC information only, are related to boron concentrations and temperature coefficient measurements.

Members of the B&WOG intend to rely on the acceptance of this report for restart activities following the fall outages of 2003. Therefore, Framatome ANP requests approval of this topical report by September 30, 2003.

Very truly yours,

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James F. Mallay, Director Regulatory Affairs

Enclosure

cc: D. G. Holland (w/enclosure) Project 728