

October 31, 2003

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

Dear Mr. Mallay:

On October 17, 2003, you wrote to endorse an earlier letter sent to me by David Modeen of EPRI. In that letter, Mr. Modeen requested further discussions with NRC on the high-burnup LOCA test program at Argonne National Laboratory. As a result of that letter, we scheduled and conducted a public meeting on this subject on October 24, 2003. Representatives from Framatome, EPRI, and many other organizations took part in that meeting. During the meeting, a further understanding was developed of NRC's intended application of results from the Argonne program and, therefore, of particular decisions that are being made in conducting that program. I believe that this understanding will make it possible for our technical people to resolve the issue of testing methods that was identified by Mr. Modeen. Additional technical details will be provided by Dr. Eltawila in his response to your letter to him, also on October 17, 2003

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ashok C. Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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Ashok C. Thadani, Director
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