

January 5, 2005

Mr. James F. Mallay
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Framatome ANP
3315 Old Forest Road
Lynchburg, VA 24501

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF TOPICAL REPORT BAW-10243(P), "STATISTICAL FUEL
ASSEMBLY HOLD DOWN METHODOLOGY," FOR REVIEW
(TAC NO. MC4531)

Dear Mr. Mallay:

By letter dated September 21, 2004, Framatome ANP submitted for NRC staff review Topical Report (TR) BAW-10243(P), "Statistical Fuel Assembly Hold Down Methodology." The NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of TR BAW-10243(P). We have found that the material presented is sufficient to begin our comprehensive review. The staff expects to issue requests for additional information by March 2, 2005, and complete its review by September 30, 2005, and estimates that the review will require approximately 240 staff hours, including project management time. The review schedule milestones and estimated review costs were discussed and agreed upon in a telephone conference between Jerry Holm and myself on December 15, 2004.

Section 170.21 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* requires that TRs are subject to fees based on the full cost of the review. You did not request a fee waiver; therefore, staff hours will be billed accordingly.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michelle C. Honcharik, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 728

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