



April 1, 2005  
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Director, Office of Nuclear Material  
Safety and Safeguards  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

**Subject: Annual Financial Test Update for Decommissioning Financial Assurance for the Framatome ANP (FANP) Richland Fuel Fabrication Facility (License No. SNM-1227, Docket No. 70-1257)**

Decommissioning financial assurance for FANP's Richland, Washington fuel fabrication facility is provided by a parent company guarantee as provided for in 10 CFR 70.25 (f)(2). The financial test underlying that guarantee is as specified in 10 CFR 30, Appendix A, which also includes a requirement that passage of the test be reaffirmed on an annual basis (within 90 days after the close of each succeeding fiscal year). Attached in support of this annual demonstration are the following updated financial assurance instruments:

- Framatome ANP, Inc. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Letter; [Exhibit 2 from FANP's Decommissioning Funding Plan (DFP)];
- AREVA Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Letter, Including Parent Company Guarantee Financial Test; (Exhibit 3 from FANP's DFP). This financial instrument, signed on March 30, 2005, is responsive to the 10 CFR 30 Appendix A, Section II C.1 requirement for annual passage of the financial test. Please note that the letter indicates that a copy of the firm's 2004 financial statements will be provided as soon as available.
- Auditor's Special Report – Confirmation of the Chief Financial Officer's Letter (Exhibit 4 in FANP's DFP).

An updated Exhibit 5 of FANP's DFP, Report of the Auditors on the Consolidated Financial Statements, will be provided in conjunction with copies of the 2004 financial statements, as discussed above.

The attached financial assurance instruments are copies of the originals. Consistent with prior instruction from the NRC, original copies of the instruments will be submitted under separate cover directly to the Chief, Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch, FCSS.

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If you have questions, please contact me on 509-375-8409.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Link". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "R" and a distinct "L".

R. E. Link, Manager  
Environmental, Health, Safety & Licensing

/mah

Enclosures

cc: US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: M. N. Baker, Mail Stop T8A33  
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
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