



**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

RDM-05-007

July 8, 2005

ATTN: Document Control Desk
Director, Spent Fuel Project Office,
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards,
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: 10 CFR 71.95 Report of Non-Compliance with Certificate of Compliance USA/9309/B(U)F-96, Revision 1, for the Model No. RAJ-II Package

Reference: 1) PacTec Letter dated May 23, 2005, "Potential Undersized Welds"
2) CHT Letter dated May 20, 2005, DWO-05-021, "Potential Reportable Defect/Noncompliance per 10 CFR 21 Requirements"

To Whom It May Concern:

On May 23, 2005, Framatome ANP (FANP), Inc., an AREVA and Siemens Company, was notified by Packaging Technology, Inc. (PacTec) [Reference 1] that some of the as-fabricated Model No. RAJ-II packages owned by FANP may have undersized welds in the sling positioning angles. As of this date, FANP-owned RAJ-II packages are not in service, and the next scheduled use dates occur during December 2005.

On May 20, 2005, Columbia Hi Tech, LLC, (CHT) notified PacTec [Reference 2] that a recent NRC inspection identified some 3 x 50 x 150 mm intermittent welds as undersized {welds attaching item 20 (wire rope hold angle) to item 7 and 9 (body outer side plates) as indicated in licensing drawing 105E3738, Sheet 3, Revision 4 (View L-L/Detail)}.

On June 9, 2005, FANP along with PacTec inspected 34 out of the existing 100 packages for undersized wire rope hold angle welds. Of the 34 containers measured, all had portions of welds which were slightly undersized. Also, it was noted that certain package markings (stencils) were not positioned exactly as specified on the applicable license drawing.

In Reference 2, CHT indicated that an independent review concluded that the existence of the undersized wire rope hold angle welds were not safety significant. This fact was

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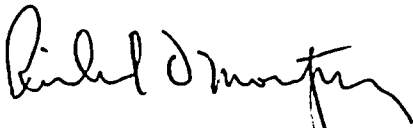
further confirmed by additional calculations performed by PacTec. Based on the calculations, FANP proposes that the licensing drawing be changed to delete the weld thickness requirement for the wire rope hold angle. A license amendment request based on a revised 105E3738, sheet 3 as supported by the PacTec calculations to delete the weld thickness requirement was discussed with GNF on June 10, 2005. This activity was further discussed with the NRC Transportation Licensing section on June 28, 2005.

FANP has taken immediate action to discontinue use of RAJ-II packages that are not in full compliance with the license drawings. Unfortunately, RAJ-II packagings RA-001 through RA-072 were used to ship fuel assemblies to Browns Ferry in December 2004 and January 2005; however, there was no impact to the safety basis of the package or increased risk to the public. RAJ-II packagings RA-073 through RA-100 have not been used for any shipments. As mentioned previously, a license request will be submitted to support a reduced wire rope hold angle weld and RAJ-II package shipments will resume when the amendment request is approved by the NRC. Furthermore, RAJ-II packages with markings (stencils) not in accordance with the required licensing drawings will be corrected prior to the resumption of package shipments.

If you or your staff have any questions, require additional information, or wish to discuss the matter further, please contact me at 423-791-5719. Please reference the unique document identification number in any correspondence concerning this letter.

Sincerely,

Framatome ANP, Inc., an AREVA and Siemens Company



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