

August 1, 2005

Mr. Ronnie L. Gardner
Manager, Site Operations
and Regulatory Affairs
Framatome ANP
3315 Old Forest Road
Lynchburg, VA 24501

SUBJECT: FINAL SAFETY EVALUATION FOR FRAMATOME ANP TOPICAL REPORT
BAW-10179(P), REVISION 6, "SAFETY CRITERIA AND METHODOLOGY FOR
ACCEPTABLE CYCLE RELOAD ANALYSIS" (TAC NO. MC6394)

Dear Mr. Gardner:

By letter dated March 15, 2005, Framatome ANP (FANP) submitted Topical Report (TR) BAW-10179(P), Revision 6, "Safety Criteria and Methodology for Acceptable Cycle Reload Analysis," to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff. By letter dated July 8, 2005, an NRC draft safety evaluation (SE) regarding our approval of BAW-10179(P), Revision 6, was provided for your review and comments. FANP had no comments on the draft SE.

The NRC staff has found that BAW-10179(P), Revision 6, is acceptable for referencing in licensing applications for Babcock & Wilcox 177-fuel assembly designed pressurized or boiling water reactors, to the extent specified and under the limitations delineated in the TR and in the enclosed final SE. The final SE defines the basis for acceptance of the TR.

Our acceptance applies only to material provided in the subject TR. We do not intend to repeat our review of the acceptable material described in the TR. When the TR appears as a reference in license applications, our review will ensure that the material presented applies to the specific plant involved. License amendment requests that deviate from this TR will be subject to a plant-specific review in accordance with applicable review standards.

In accordance with the guidance provided on the NRC website, we request that FANP publish accepted proprietary and non-proprietary versions of this TR within three months of receipt of this letter. The accepted versions shall incorporate this letter and the enclosed final SE after the title page. Also, they must contain historical review information, including NRC requests for additional information and your responses. The accepted versions shall include a "-A" (designating accepted) following the TR identification symbol.

R. Gardner

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If future changes to the NRC's regulatory requirements affect the acceptability of this TR, FANP and/or licensees referencing it will be expected to revise the TR appropriately, or justify its continued applicability for subsequent referencing.

Sincerely,

/RA/
Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 728

Enclosure: Final SE

R. Gardner

- 2 -
August 1, 2005

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Sincerely,

/RA/
Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 728

Enclosure: Final SE

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DATE	7/20/05	7/28/05	7/29/05	8/1/05	8/1/05	8/1/05

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SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

TOPICAL REPORT BAW-10179(P), REVISION 6

"SAFETY CRITERIA AND METHODOLOGY FOR

ACCEPTABLE CYCLE RELOAD ANALYSIS"

FRAMATOME ANP

PROJECT NO. 728

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated March 15, 2005 (Agencywide Documents Access Management System Accession No. ML051880301), Framatome ANP (FANP) submitted Topical Report (TR) BAW-10179(P), Revision 6, "Safety Criteria and Methodology for Acceptable Cycle Reload Analysis," for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review. BAW-10179(P) provides the criteria and methodology for determining cycle-specific limits and setpoints that are included in the Core Operating Limits Reports (COLRs) for the Babcock and Wilcox (B&W) 177-fuel assembly class of nuclear power plants. The TR serves as the approved methodology that is referenced in the COLR portion of the Administrative Controls section of a plant's technical specifications.

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

In Revision 6 to BAW-10179(P), FANP added one TR that has been approved by the NRC since Revision 5 of BAW-10179(P) was approved. The TR is briefly described in Appendix X, and the description includes the limitations and conditions on the applicability of the TR.

The following has been incorporated in BAW-10179P, Revision 6:

Appendix X: BAW-10241P-A, Revision 1, "BHTP DNB [departure from nucleate boiling] Correlation Applied with LYNXT," July 2005.

The NRC staff reviewed the safety evaluation that was issued for the above TR, FANP's descriptions of the TR, and the limitations on the applicability to B&W 177-fuel assembly class of nuclear power plants. The NRC staff finds that the summary for the TR, including the limitations on applicability to the B&W 177-fuel assembly class of nuclear power plants, is adequate.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The NRC staff concludes that BAW-10179(P), Revision 6, adds a TR that is approved for B&W 177-fuel assembly class of nuclear power plants, and that the summary of the TR is adequate. Therefore, Revision 6 may be referenced in a plant's technical specifications as the current approved version of BAW-10179(P).

Principal Contributor: M. Honcharik

Date: August 1, 2005