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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 15, 2019

Mr. Gary Peters, Director Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Framatome Inc. 3315 Old Forest Road Lynchburg, VA 24501

SUBJECT: REGULATORY AUDIT PLAN FOR JANUARY 30-31, 2019, AUDIT FOR FRAMATOME INC. TOPICAL REPORT BAW-10227, REVISION 1, SUPPLEMENT 1P, "EVALUATION OF ADVANCED CLADDING AND STRUCTURAL MATERIAL (M5) IN PWR REACTOR FUEL" (CAC MF9716/EPID L-2017-TOP-0031)

Dear Mr. Peters:

By letter dated May 4, 2017, Framatome Inc. (Framatome, formerly AREVA Inc.) submitted Topical Report (TR) BAW-10227, Revision 1, Supplement 1P, "Evaluation of Advanced Cladding and Structural Material (M5) in PWR [Pressurized Water Reactor] Reactor Fuel" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML17130A708). The purpose of the TR is to re-establish the iron impurity concentration limit without a need to change any application methods or licensee Technical Specifications methodology references based on its evaluation.

The NRC staff determined that a regulatory audit is needed to allow the NRC staff to increase their level of knowledge and understanding of the topic and associated methodologies. The NRC staff will perform a regulatory audit at Framatome's facility in Lynchburg, Virginia on January 30-31, 2019. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the plan the NRC staff will follow on the audit.

NOTICE: Enclosure transmitted herewith contains proprietary information. When separated from Enclosure, this transmittal document is decontrolled.

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Please contact Jonathan Rowley at 301-415-4053 or via e-mail at <u>Jonathan.Rowley@nrc.gov</u> with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dennis C. Morey, Chief Licensing Processes Branch Division of Licensing Projects Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket: 99902041 Project: 0728

Enclosures:

- 1. Audit Plan (Proprietary)
- 2. Audit Plan (Non-Proprietary)

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ADAMS Accession No.: Package- ML18355A977, Letter- ML18355A980, Plan- ML18355A898 (Prop), Plan – ML19003A359 (Non-Prop) *concurred via email NRR-106

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