



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

May 18, 2026

Ms. Gayle Elliott, Director
Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Framatome, Inc.
3315 Old Forest Road
Lynchburg, VA 24501

SUBJECT: WITHHOLDING PROPRIETARY INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
- TOPICAL REPORT, ANP-10359, REVISION 0, PROTECT: INCORPORATION
OF CHROMIUM-COATED M5 CLADDING MATERIAL PROPERTIES IN
FRAMATOME PWR METHODS (EPID L-2026-TOP-0015)

Dear Ms. Elliott:

By letter dated April 17, 2026, Framatome Inc. (Framatome) submitted affidavits (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML26107A267) executed on April 17, 2026, by Alan Meginnis, to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requesting that the information contained in the following document be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Section 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding:"

ANP-10359P, Revision 0, "PROtect: Incorporation of Chromium-Coated M5 Cladding Material Properties in Framatome [Pressurized Water Reactor] PWR Methods" dated April 2026

The non-proprietary version of the document above can be found in ADAMS at ML26107A266.

The affidavits stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

- a) The information reveals the distinguishing aspects of a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.) whose use by any of Framatome's competitors, without a license from Framatome, would constitute a competitive economic disadvantage to Framatome.
- b) The information consists of supporting data, including test data, relative to a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.), and the application of the data secures a competitive economic advantage.
- c) Use of the information by a competitor would reduce the competitor's expenditure of resources, or improve its competitive position, in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product.

The NRC staff has reviewed the affidavits and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390 and based on the statements in the affidavit, it has determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

Therefore, the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, Framatome should promptly notify the NRC. Framatome also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future if, for example, the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes Framatome information. In all review situations, the NRC will follow applicable laws, regulations, and policies in conducting its review, including the NRC's policies on notifying the owner of information in advance of any public disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-6695 or via email at Ngola.Otto@nrc.gov

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ngola Otto, Project Manager
Licensing Projects Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 99902041

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ADAMS Accession Nos.:

Package: ML26128A004

ML26128A012 (Letter)

e-Concurrence case: 20260508-30017