



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

July 27, 2026

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

SUBJECT: DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION FOR FRAMATOME TOPICAL REPORT
BAW-10247, REVISION 0, SUPPLEMENT 3P, REVISION 0, "REALISTIC
THERMAL-MECHANICAL FUEL ROD METHODOLOGY FOR BOILING WATER
REACTORS, SUPPLEMENT 3: EXTENSION TO HIGHER EXPOSURES"
(EPID L-2025-TOP-0013)

Dear Ms. Elliott:

By letter dated April 4, 2025 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Package Accession No. ML25094A177), and supplemented by letter dated May 1, 2026 (ML26124A007), Framatome Inc. (Framatome) submitted Topical Report (TR) BAW-10247, Revision 0, Supplement 3P, Revision 0, "Realistic Thermal-Mechanical Fuel Rod Methodology for Boiling Water Reactors Supplement 3: Extension to Higher Exposures," for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review and Approval. This TR methodology, as referred to as RODEX4, is used to analyze fuel rod performance to higher rod-average exposures for boiling water reactor applications. The NRC staff's review and approval of this TR supplement is described in the safety evaluation (SE).

A copy of the proprietary draft SE (ML26173A152) has been placed in the NRC SharePoint External Sharing (SPxS) folder. Alan Meginnis, Framatome, has been given access to the folder. The draft SE is provided for a proprietary information review. If Framatome provides comments on other areas, the NRC staff will exercise its discretion on whether to address those comments.

Pursuant to Section 2.390 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), we have determined that the draft SE may contain proprietary information. If you believe that any information in the draft SE is proprietary, please identify such information line-by-line and define the basis pursuant to the criteria of 10 CFR 2.390. Use bold brackets and yellow highlights to identify any [proprietary information].

NOTICE: Enclosure 1 to this letter contains Proprietary Information. When this letter is separated from Enclosure 1, this letter is decontrolled.

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Your response must be via a letter from an authorized individual. Please provide your response within 20 working days. To facilitate the NRC staff's review of your comments, please provide a marked up copy of the draft SE showing proposed changes and provide a summary table of the proposed changes. The final SE will be issued after making any necessary changes. If Framatome would like to discuss this draft SE in detail, we can do that in a noticed meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Ngola Otto at 301-415-6695 or by email at Ngola.Otto@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Damaris Marcano, Chief
Operating Reactor Topical Reports Branch
Licensing Programs Division II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 99902041
Project No. 728

Enclosure:
Proprietary Draft SE

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DISTRIBUTION:

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ADAMS Accession Nos.:

ML26173A156 (Package)
ML26173A151 (Letter)
ML26173A152 (Draft SE - Proprietary)
20260622-80019 (e-Concurrence Case)