

FRAMATOME COGEMA FUELS

December 16, 1999
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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Topical Report BAW-10199P, Addendum 1, The BWU Critical Heat Flux Correlations, TAC: M96728

Gentlemen:

BAW-10199P, Addendum 1 was submitted to license the BWU-Z CHF correlation for Mark-B11 (15x15) and Mark-BW (17x17) fuel with mid-span mixers (MSM). From several conference calls on the subject, FCF understands that the NRC staff has some questions about the application of this correlation to Mark-BW fuel, but that application to Mark-B11 fuel appears acceptable.

FCF hereby requests that the NRC expedite its issuance of the SE on the subject topical report for application to the Mark-B11 fuel only, in order to support the immediate needs of our customers, as described below. We plan to resume discussion of the applicability of BWU-Z to the Mark-BW MSM fuel early next year.

The Mark-B11 fuel assembly type is being implemented on a batch basis at the Oconee Nuclear Station in the fourth quarter of 2000. The BWU-Z correlation is the basis for all thermal-hydraulic analyses for the Mark-B11. FCF and Duke both need approval of BAW-10199P, Addendum 1, to perform these analyses prior to batch implementation.

Very truly yours,



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