



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

November 10, 1999

Ron L. Kesterson, Fellow Engineer  
Materials Fuel Rod Design, Commercial Nuclear Fuels Division  
Westinghouse Electric Company  
5801 Bluff Road  
Columbia, SC 29250

Dear Mr. Kesterson:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, I would like to thank you for taking the time to provide your insights regarding the use of texture analysis for quality assurance checks on zirconium alloy tubing. Your technical knowledge and expertise in the area of texture analysis is highly regarded through out the nuclear industry. The information that you provided contributed substantially to NRC staff's understanding of the subject and disposition of an NRC issue on quality assurance on zirconium alloy tubing. Once again thank you for your help .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Theodore R. Quay".

Theodore R. Quay, Chief  
Quality Assurance, Vendor Inspection,  
and Maintenance Branch  
Division of Inspection Program Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: John Craig, Director  
Division of Engineering Technology  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Handwritten initials "A/18" in a stylized, cursive font.