

October 31, 2005

Ms. Sandra Sloan  
Regulatory Affairs Manager  
New Plants Deployment  
Framatome ANP, Inc.  
3315 Old Forest Road  
Lynchburg, VA 24506-0935

Dear Ms. Sloan:

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Framatome ANP for providing the opportunity for Joe Tapia and me to visit the Olkiluoto 3 (OL3) EPR construction site and the Chalon/Saint Marcel fabrication site. Joe and I came away from this experience with a much greater overall understanding of current construction and fabrication techniques, which will prove to be important as we continue our work on the development of the NRC's construction inspection program. After having the chance to learn from the engineers and managers actually working on OL3 and to see the construction first-hand, we both also have a much greater understanding of the EPR design. I know that Joe learned a great deal from and was very interested in the welding information he received from the Technical Center at Saint Marcel. In addition, the discussions we had on code comparisons added to our understanding of the issues in that area.

Please pass along our thanks to all the individuals who took time from their busy schedules to meet with us, to provide presentations, and to answer our many questions. In addition, please thank everyone who arranged and organized behind the scenes to make this trip a total success. And lastly, my personal thanks to you for initiating the discussions that made this trip possible.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann M. Ashley, Team Leader/**RA**/  
Construction Inspection Program  
Division of Inspection and Regional Support  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Regulatory Affairs Manager  
New Plants Deployment  
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Construction Inspection Program  
Division of Inspection and Regional Support  
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