



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

April 26, 2022

Mr. Gary Peters, Director
Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Framatome Inc.
3315 Old Forest Road
Lynchburg, VA 24501

SUBJECT: THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S REVISED SCHEDULE FOR THE REVIEW OF FRAMATOME'S TOPICAL REPORT, ANP-10339P, REVISION 0, "ARITA - ARTEMIS/RELAP INTEGRATED TRANSIENT ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY" (EPID L-2018-TOP-0034)

Dear Mr. Peters:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff plans to revise the schedule for its review of Framatome, Inc. (Framatome) Topical Report (TR) ANP-10339P, Revision 0, "ARITA - ARTEMIS/RELAP Integrated Transient Analysis Methodology" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Package Accession No. ML18242A480), submitted on August 28, 2018. By letter dated December 18, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18345A159), the NRC staff established an initial TR review schedule with NRC milestone dates for the requests for additional information (RAIs) by November 15, 2019, and issuance of the final safety evaluation (SE) by August 31, 2021.

The initial schedule provided in the December 18, 2018, letter, considered that Framatome would provide the requested technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to begin its detailed technical review. On March 14, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19078A260), Framatome provided supplemental information to the December 18, 2018, letter. During the detailed review, the NRC staff issued 92 RAIs between December 2019 and April 2020. The responses to the NRC staff's RAIs were submitted on March 31, 2020 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML20097E582), July 31, 2020 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML20237F488), November 20, 2020 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML20335A217), and June 2, 2021 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML21162A080).

In February 2021, the NRC transmittal date for the final SE was revised from August 31, 2021, to December 31, 2021, because some of the RAI responses were delayed and the NRC staff needed additional time to conduct several audits regarding the RAI responses. In August 2021, the schedule was revised again because the review progress was not in line with the schedule at that time, even though there were frequent interactions between the NRC staff and Framatome representatives during audits and meetings. Subsequently, the draft and final SE dates were revised to February 25, 2022, and May 31, 2022, respectively.

The NRC drop-in meetings were held between NRC and Framatome management on October 21, 2021, and February 23, 2022, to discuss the schedule and review progress. At the drop-in meeting on October 21, 2021, the NRC and Framatome management discussed options to either continue RAI discussions during audits and public meetings or end such discussions and focus on completing the draft SE. It was noted at the time that ending the RAI discussions may have resulted in a significant number of limitations and conditions in the NRC staff's final SE.

As a result of the drop-in meetings, it was determined that the path forward for the review would be to continue discussions on the unresolved RAIs. Currently, the NRC staff and Framatome representatives plan to finish the RAI discussions by the end of April 2022.

This revised schedule provides a new baseline for the ARITA TR review. The NRC staff plans to issue the draft SE by October 14, 2022, and final SE by February 28, 2023, as annotated in the enclosed revised schedule. This revised schedule is based on Framatome providing all final submittals by May 31, 2022. Additionally, it is based on the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards subcommittee and full committee meetings will be held as scheduled on December 12, 2022, and February 2, 2023, respectively.

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

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No.: 99902041

Enclosure:
As stated

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Revised Review Schedule for the Framatome, Inc.
Topical Report ANP-10339P, Revision 0,
“ARITA - ARTEMIS/RELAP Integrated Transient Analysis Methodology”
Docket No. 99902041
EPID L-2018-TOP-0034**

Milestone	Revised Date
Complete Request for Additional Information (RAI) Discussions	April 29, 2022
Framatome Inc. (Framatome) Final Transmittal of RAIs and Topical Report Updates	May 31, 2022
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Issues Draft Safety Evaluation (SE)	October 14, 2022
Framatome Proprietary Review of Draft SE	November 6, 2022
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Subcommittee Meeting	December 12, 2022
ACRS Full Committee Meeting	February 2, 2023
NRC Issues Final SE	February 28, 2023

Enclosure

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REVISION 0, "ARITA - ARTEMIS/RELAP INTEGRATED TRANSIENT
ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY" (EPID L-2018-TOP-0034)
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ADAMS Accession Number: ML22097A264***via email**

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