Communication from NMEU to EU Observatory for the Supply of Medical Radioisotopes

Global Mo-99 and I-131 Production Impacted by delay of BR2 Reactor Restarting from Scheduled Maintenance

Brussels, 8 November 2022

The BR2 reactor informed an NMEU Emergency Response Team (ERT) on November 8 that the communication and discussion with the safety authorities of the results of recent investigations started on November 7. The currently projected start date is still November 17.

NTP confirmed that Mo-99 irradiation and processing operations are proceeding normally, and the SAFARI will operate until November 19. The OPAL reactor restarted on November 5, and the LVR-15 reactor now plans to restart on November 18 instead of the previously planned November 29.

Nuclear Medicine Europe continues to project that Mo-99 supply disruptions are anticipated beginning the end of next week and both Mo-99 and I-131 shortages are expected through at least the third week of November.

NMEU is continuing to monitor the situation and will provide further communication to the nuclear medicine community on Thursday November 10.

SIGNED

Ira Goldman
Chairman NMEU SoS WG

Bernard Ponsard
Chairman ERT

For the reactors: Bernard Ponsard, Chairman ERT, SCK CEN
For the Processors: David Achiolas, IRE
Frank De Lange, Curium
For the Generators: Ira Goldman, LMI
Revital Melzer, GE, Healthcare
By invitation: Piet Louw, NTP
Marjolijn Droog, NRG
Rapporteur Bram Van Malderen, NMEU