

COMMUNICATION FROM THE NMEu EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (ERT)

Subject: Further Update on Unplanned Outage of the HFR Reactor

Brussels 7 February 2022

The Nuclear Medicine Europe Emergency Response Team held another call on 7 February 2022 on the unplanned HFR outage that resulted in cancellation of the planned HFR operating cycle through 20 February 2022. NMEu was informed by HFR reactor operator NRG that inspections have been completed, the root cause of the water leak has been identified, and the option for restoring functionality has been selected. However, the target date for HFR restart cannot yet be provided due to uncertainties with equipment lead time, project execution and nuclear regulatory agency review. NRG will provide the next update on Monday 14 February 2022.

The ERT was provided further updates from research reactors and Mo-99 producers concerning current radioisotope supply including reports of some medical radioisotope shortages. As the BR2 reactor resumes operations on Saturday February 12th several days earlier than planned, the supply situation for Tc-99m for medical imaging as well as Lu-177 and I-131 for therapy is expected to return to normal by the end of next week. Medical institutions should contact their radioisotope suppliers to determine the specific impact on their orders.

NMEu will communicate again with stakeholders on 14 February 2022.

Bernard Ponsard,
Chairman ERT

Ira Goldman,
Chairman NMEu SoS WG

For the reactors:

Bernard Ponsard, Chairman ERT, SCK CEN

For the Processors:

David Achiolas IRE

Auke Attema, Curium

For the Generators:

Ira Goldman, LMI

Revital Melzer, GE, Healthcare

Nil Neda Bedro, Monrol

By invitation:

Ronald Schram, NRG

Jelmer Offerein, NRG

Piet Louw, NTP

Rapporteur

Jocelyne Baldasso, NMEU

