



August 13, 2009

Media Statement – Update on AECL’s Extended Medical Isotope Supply Disruption

On August 12, 2009, the global nuclear medicine community received a status update from AECL providing further guidance on a return to service date of the National Research Universal (NRU) reactor. Based on the most recent data from the ongoing assessment of the NRU reactor, progress on the repair strategies and the critical path requirements for the NRU restart, AECL indicated that the reactor will return to service during first quarter of 2010.

AECL states that the evidence collected to date continues to support its view that the necessary vessel repairs can be made and that the NRU will return to service. In the interim, MDS Nordion will continue to work closely with its global supply network to source additional isotopes; however the Company anticipates that the medical community and patients will continue to experience significant shortages while the NRU is down. Supply will be further constrained in early 2010 with the planned six-month shutdown of the High Flux Reactor (HFR) in Petten, The Netherlands. Of additional concern is that according to the July 16, 2009 reactor schedule provided by the Association of Equipment Producers & Equipment Suppliers (AIPES), only one of the three reactors in Europe will be operating at any given time from late June through to mid -October.

MDS Nordion continues to urge the Government of Canada and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited to complete the MAPLE project to address the global shortage of medical isotopes. On July 30, the Company announced their proposal submission to the Government of Canada’s Expert Review Panel on Medical Isotope and Technetium-99m (Tc-99m) Generator Production, further emphasizing the solution to the global medical isotope crisis is in Canada. MDS Nordion believes that the best answer to the shortage of medical radioisotopes is the completion and bringing into service of the MAPLE project. The MDS Nordion Proposal outlines technical and regulatory requirements needed for the provision of a secure supply of medical isotopes for the health care system in Canada and around the world.

For more background information on the supply of medical isotopes, visit our Medical Isotope Update Web page at www.mdsnordion.com/medical_isotopes_update.asp