



U.S. Department of Energy  
and the  
National Science Foundation



March 10, 2015

Dr. Donald Geesaman  
Chair, DOE/NSF Nuclear Science Advisory Committee  
Argonne National Laboratory  
9800 South Cass Avenue  
Argonne, Illinois 60439

Dear Dr. Geesaman:

This letter is to request that, in accordance with direction given to the DOE in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY2013, the Nuclear Science Advisory Committee (NSAC) standing Subcommittee on Mo-99 conduct its annual assessment of the effectiveness of the National Nuclear Security Administration, Office of Material Management and Minimization's (NNSA-MMM) Domestic Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) Program (formerly known as the Global Threat Reduction Initiative).

The American Medical Isotopes Production Act of 2012 (Act), formerly known as S.99 and H.R. 3276, was incorporated into the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY2013. On January 2, 2013, President Obama signed the NDAA into law, enacting this legislation. A stipulation of the NNDA under section 3173 - *IMPROVING THE RELIABILITY OF DOMESTIC MEDICAL ISOTOPE SUPPLY* is that:

*"... the Secretary [of Energy] shall... use the Nuclear Science Advisory Committee to conduct annual reviews of the progress made in achieving the [NNSA MMM] program goals and make recommendations to improve program effectiveness."*

The Department of Energy (DOE) and National Science Foundation (NSF) very much appreciate NSAC's initial assessment of the NNSA-MMM Mo-99 Program, and the subsequent report transmitted to the agencies on May 8, 2014.

Subsequently, we request that NSAC reconvene the Subcommittee to provide an annual assessment of the following charge elements:

- What is the current status of implementing the goals of the NNSA-MMM Mo-99 Program? What progress has been made since the initial NSAC assessment?
- Is the strategy for continuing to implement the NNSA goals complete and feasible, within an international context?
- Are risks identified in implementing those goals being appropriately managed?



- Has the NNSA-MMM Program addressed concerns and/or recommendations articulated in the 2014 NSAC assessment of the Mo-99 Program appropriately and adequately?
- What steps should be taken to further improve NNSA program effectiveness in establishing a domestic supply of Mo-99?

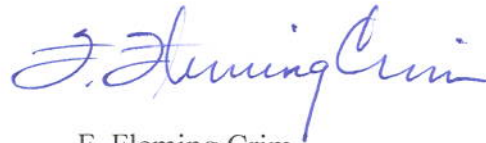
It is requested that this annual assessment be submitted by July 2015. Subsequent assessments are to be provided annually.

We are aware that this charge represents an additional burden on your time. However, the involvement of NSAC is essential to inform the Agency regarding the effectiveness of efforts to steward Mo-99, an isotope essential for the health and well-being of the Nation.

Sincerely,



Patricia M. Dehmer  
Acting Director  
Office of Science



F. Fleming Crim  
Assistant Director  
Directorate for Mathematical  
and Physical Sciences