Lessons Learned During Conversion from HEU to LEU

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ABSTRACT

Curium is the world’s largest producer and consumer of Mo-99. It operates its Mo-99 production facility in the Netherlands and has three Tc-99m generator manufacturing plants. In January, 2018 Curium completed its conversion from the use of High Enriched Uranium (HEU) to Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) targets for the production of Mo-99. During this conversion process and since the adoption of 100% LEU-produced Mo-99 and Xe-133, Curium has learned a great deal about the use of LEU targets. Details will be provided about some of the challenges of this conversion effort and the routine use of LEU to produce Mo-99 and Xe-133.