



CUSTOMER STATEMENT

Wednesday, July 3 2019

Notification of ANSTO Planned Maintenance Shutdowns

OPAL Reactor

We would like to advise customers that ANSTO will undertake planned extended maintenance on the OPAL reactor from **7 September to 6 October, 2019**.

The OPAL reactor typically operates in cycles of 30 to 35 days followed by short (four to six day) outages to refuel and perform minor maintenance.

The upcoming one month extended maintenance shut down occurs on average, only once every five years. This shutdown is essential to ensure the ongoing high efficiency, safety and reliability of the reactor. Unfortunately, it means that ANSTO will be unable to produce Mo-99 domestically during that time.

In anticipation of the length of this shutdown and its potential impact on the nuclear medicine supply in Australia, ANSTO is developing mitigation strategies and alternative supply plans with our global partners, to minimise the impact on customers and patients.

There are a number of complex influencing factors in the global market, and ANSTO is continuing to work with our commercial partners to resolve these matters.

Once confirmation has been received from international suppliers, we will share additional updates with all customers in a timely manner.

Building 23 – ANSTO Gentech® Production

ANSTO will be conducting an extended (three week) shutdown of its nuclear medicine production facility (Building 23) from **21 October to 12 November 2019**, to undertake preventative maintenance on the Gentech® Tc-99m generator production line.

The October/November timeframe has been selected to coincide with the return to service of the OPAL reactor after its extended maintenance shutdown, and subsequent Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) production.

ANSTO is working with local and international partners to mitigate the impact of this shutdown on customers and patients. It is not anticipated that these shutdowns will have an impact on Tc-99m generator supply. Further detail of supply arrangements for Tc-99m generators over this period will be communicated in the coming weeks.

ANSTO is acutely aware of the importance of uninterrupted supply to Australian patients. We are working hard to ensure minimal disruption to patient care during both of the above outages. We will continue to work closely with the Nuclear Medicine Community to reduce any impact that may be caused as a result of these shutdowns. Ongoing and regular updates will be provided detailing alternative supply arrangements as they are finalised.

If you would like to stay up to date with ANSTO customer statements, maintenance updates and news on our products and services, please join us community groups on our social media platforms:

***LinkedIn:** ANSTO's Australian Nuclear Medicine network*

Contact ANSTO directly on 1800 251 572 for more information