

18.0 HIGHLY ENRICHED TO LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM CONVERSION

Northwest Medical Isotopes, LLC (NWMI or the applicant) preliminary safety analysis report (PSAR) Chapter 18.0, "Highly Enriched to Low-Enriched Uranium Conversion," states that the conversion from highly enriched to low-enriched uranium (LEU) is not applicable to the proposed NWMI Radioisotope Production Facility.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff (the staff) evaluated the descriptions and discussions of the NWMI production facility in the PSAR and finds that the preliminary design of the NWMI production facility does not utilize highly enriched uranium. As stated in PSAR Chapter 1.0, "The Facility," the NWMI production facility will only utilize LEU as target material. Therefore, the staff concludes that an evaluation using the guidelines of "Final Interim Staff Guidance Augmenting NUREG-1537, Part 2, 'Guidelines for Preparing and Reviewing Applications for the Licensing of Non-Power Reactors: Standard Review Plan and Acceptance Criteria,' for Licensing Radioisotope Production Facilities and Aqueous Homogeneous Reactors" (Reference 11), for uranium conversion is not required.

