

THE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR ENERGY CORPORATION (NECSA)

MEDIA STATEMENT

International Meeting on Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors(RERTR-2006)

The RERTR-2006 conference was held in Cape Town from 29 October – 2 November 2006. The conference was jointly coordinated by the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (Necsa) and Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) of the USA. This was the 28th annual meeting in a series on the same general subject regarding the Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors.

The U.S. Department of Energy / National Nuclear Security Administration's Office of Global Threat Reduction hosted the "RERTR-2006 International Meeting on Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors."

The information will be exchanged on the progress of national and international programs to develop low-enriched uranium (LEU) fuels and targets for research and test reactors and to convert research reactors and radio-isotope production processes to the use of such fuels and targets. The meeting will be held in English and will be open to those who share such interests, but the organizers reserve the right to limit the attendance. Technical and policy experts interested in attending the conference may register by completing the attached forms.

The main objective of this series of meetings is the core conversion of research reactors from highly enriched uranium (HEU) to LEU fuels. Fuel element manufacturers and national laboratories have developed fuel types suitable for LEU utilization in most of the world's research reactors. Many reactors are already fully converted and new LEU fuels are under development and scheduled for qualification. The meeting technical subjects will include development of new LEU fuels, development and testing of LEU targets and processes for the production of Mo-99, design and safety analyses for reactor conversions, and transportation and storage of spent fuels. Topics to be covered during the meeting are:

- Progress reports of national programs
- Fuel development
- Fuel testing and evaluation
- Measurements and calculations for converted reactors
- Safety tests and evaluations
- Core conversion studies
- Production of fission Mo-99 from LEU
- Licensing requirements
- HEU and LEU fuel cycle
- Spent fuel transportation and storage
- Utilization of converted (LEU) reactors

This meeting is a unique opportunity for experts and policy makers to facilitate the exchange of information on the progress of national and international programs to develop low enrichment uranium (LEU) fuels and targets for research and test reactors and to convert the reactors to operate with LEU fuels and targets.

The venue for this conference is Southern Sun Cape Sun in Strand Street Cape Town. One hundred and seventy five people are expected to attend. The hotel could only reserve a hundred

rooms for booking of a first come first serve basis. The alternative hotels are the Park Inn, Tulip Hotel, St George Hotel and The Cape Town Ritz. The first three hotels are within walking distance from the Cape Sun and the Ritz offers a free shuttle service.

The main sponsors of this event will be able to exhibit at the conference. Necsa as well as NTP Radioisotopes will each do a corporate exhibition, using existing material.

For entertainment a sunset cruise is arranged for the Monday evening, 30/10/2006. Delegates will be transported by bus from the Cape Sun to the Waterfront where they will board the Sea Princess for a 2-hour cruise. Drinks and snacks will be served. The bus will leave at different times to return to the hotel.

The Gala Dinner will take place on the Wednesday evening, 01/11/2006 at the Moyo at Spier. Delegates will be transported by bus to and from the venue.

The programme for the accompanied persons is for their own arrangement. A list of day tours is linked to the website (www.rertr.anl.gov).

Friday, 2 November 2006 is scheduled for a Technical Tour to Necsa. Only 50 delegates will take part in this event. They will fly from Cape Town to arrive in Johannesburg at 10:00. They will be transported by bus to Necsa where they will visit the SAFARI-1 Reactor, NTP Radioisotopes and PBMR Laboratories.

For more information, contact PRO Amelia Rennie-Kroon on 012 305 5562/5450

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