

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11  
20 October 2010

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** AUSTRALIAN NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION

**TOPIC:** National Medical Cyclotron

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Heffernan

**QUESTION No.:** SI-30

The decommissioned cyclotron at the NMC was capable of producing a range of different isotopes. Since decommissioning the NMC, isotopes that were produced there are currently being imported. The replacement cyclotron at the NMC site will be smaller and not capable of producing the range of products previously produced. What is ANSTO's plan for supplying isotopes currently being imported?

**ANSWER**

In the latter period of the operation of the National Medical Cyclotron (NMC), ANSTO imported substantial amounts of radioisotopes to offset its increasing unreliability. Upon the closure of the NMC, ANSTO has continued importing these isotopes. This situation remains unchanged.