Alternative Applications of Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation Technology

A Report Prepared by the
Committee on Alternative Applications of Atomic
Vapor Laser Isotope Separation Technology
Energy Engineering Board
Commission on Engineering and Technical Systems
National Research Council

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Preface

The purpose of this study was to identify and evaluate possible alternative applications for the atomic vapor laser isotope separation (AVLIS) technology for uranium enrichment and plutonium purification developed at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and to recommend steps needed for further development of the most promising applications (see Appendix B for Statement of Task). This report provides a brief summary of the technology and subsystems that have resulted from the major development program at LLNL.

The committee considered many suggested applications, some of which have been recommended for further study or development. Recommendations also include mechanisms to enhance the effective utilization of existing facilities and the timely transfer of technologies to U.S. industry. For those unfamiliar with AVLIS technologies, it is hoped that this report will also provide a useful starting point for considering other possibilities.

C. Bradley Moore, Chairman
Committee on Alternative Applications of Atomic
Vapor Laser Isotope Separation Technology

Appendix C

ORGANIZATIONS INVITED TO EXAMINE THE AVLIS PROCESS

Advanced Nuclear Fuels Corporation Bellevue, Washington

Advanced Refractories Technologies Buffalo, New York

Advanced Technology Applications Livermore, California

Allied Signal Morristown, New Jersey

Allied Signal Aerospace Company Torrance, California

Alloy Engineering Company Berea, Ohio

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Babcock & Wilcox Co. New Orleans, Louisiana B&W Fuel Company Lynchburg, Virginia

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