10 March 2010

Dear [Name]

Gefitinib for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

The Appraisal Committee met on 4th March 2010 to discuss the comments received on the ACD for gefitinib for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC.

Shortly before the Appraisal Committee meeting the Evidence Review Group (ERG) noted that it suspected an anomaly to be present in the results generated by AstraZeneca’s economic model that could have an important impact on the cost-effectiveness estimates for gefitinib.

Before the Appraisal Committee can come to final recommendations on the use of gefitinib in the abovementioned indication, it need to be established whether the ERG is correct in its identification of the suspected anomaly, and, subsequently, what AstraZeneca considers the impact to be on its evidence submission.

NICE therefore requests AstraZeneca to come to a view on the suspected anomaly and share that view with the Institute’s technical team in a teleconference on Tuesday 16 March 2010 at 14.00 (details will be sent separately). The ERG will not be present at the teleconference.

The ERG’s description of the suspected anomaly is attached to this letter.

Conditional on AstraZeneca’s view on whether the ERG is right or wrong, the technical team will consider next steps. If indeed AstraZeneca considers the ERG to be right we would be keen to discuss in the before mentioned teleconference what it considers to be the consequences of the anomaly on its (original/revised) evidence submission.

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
Gefitinib for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer
10 March 2010
Please contact Jeremy Powell (Jeremy.Powell@nice.org.uk) in first instance if you have procedural questions.

Kind regards,

Meindert Boysen
Programme Director Technology Appraisals

for Dr Elisabeth George, Associate Director (on annual leave)

Attached: LRiG comments on additional information provided by the manufacturer-addendum 9 March 2010.