

June 5, 2002

Earl P. Freilino, II, Director
Office of Homeland Security
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Office of the Governor
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Mr. Freilino:

I am responding on behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to your letter of April 18, 2002, in which you requested potassium iodide tablets offered by the NRC, but expressed concern that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved dosage is not suitable for children. You have also requested the potassium iodide tablets be shipped to more than one location at the Commonwealth's expense.

The staff has reviewed the dosage issues you raise and has forwarded your letter to the FDA for resolution. As you know, the FDA is the definitive medical authority in the United States on the use of potassium iodide and is thus the appropriate agency to review and respond to your concerns. The FDA has agreed to respond directly to you. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. David Orloff, Director, Division of Metabolic and Endocrine Drug Products, Office of New Drugs, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the FDA. Dr. Orloff can be reached by telephone at 301-827-6430.

The staff has also contacted Deputy Secretary Burns, as requested in your letter, to assure fulfillment of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's potassium iodide needs. Please contact Kathy Halvey Gibson at (301) 415-1086 for any further assistance concerning your order of potassium iodide tablets.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve

cc: Dr. Orloff, FDA/CDER