

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619

JANE SWIFT GOVERNOR

ROBERT P. GITTENS SECRETARY

HOWARD K. KOH MD, MPH COMMISSIONER

January 8, 2002

Kathy Halvey Gibson, Chief Emergency Preparedness and Health Physics Section U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Ms. Halvey Gibson:

This letter is in response to the December 20, 2001, letter from Paul H. Lohaus, Director, NRC Office of State and Tribal Programs, to Stephen McGrail, Director, MEMA, concerning the availability of KI as a supplement to evacuation and sheltering.

Please be advised, as directed in Mr. Lohaus' letter, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has concluded that incorporating KI for use for the general public as part of our emergency planning process is appropriate and we are hereby requesting that NRC provide two KI tablets for each person within the 10-mile EPZs within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As you know, the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station and its associated EPZ is entirely within the Commonwealth's borders, and we also have portions of the 10-mile EPZs for both Seabrook Nuclear Power Station and Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station. Essentially, there are five towns in the Pilgrim EPZ; six towns in the Seabrook EPZ; and, six towns in the Vermont Yankee EPZ. Based upon our estimates of the total population in these three EPZs, including seasonal transients and double counting schoolchildren, we are requesting 660,000 KI tablets.

The information that you have requested is as follows: the three nuclear power plants are Pilgrim, Seabrook and Vermont Yankee; the total population collectively is 330,000; the contact person authorized to receive KI is Nancy Ridley, Assistant Commissioner, MDPH; and, the shipping address for the KI delivery is Lou Dell'Ollio, Director, Office For Pharmacy Services, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Tewksbury Hospital, 365 East Street, Tewksbury, MA, 01876.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) under our Commonwealth's emergency plans advises the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) on protective action recommendations. The Commonwealth's request for KI is being made jointly

by both agencies. Planning is underway for using a combination of predistribution of the KI through local pharmacies in the Massachusetts towns in the three EPZs, and at schools within the EPZs, taking into consideration that school children will be either in school or not depending upon the time of the emergency.

We respectfully ask for an early response to our request by notifying us immediately upon acceptance, and if you have any questions concerning this request, please contact either Nancy Ridley, Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Health Quality Management at 617-624-5280, or Robert Hallisey, the Director of the Radiation Control Program, at 617-727-6214 x2001.

Sincerely,

Howard K. Koh, M.D. Commissioner MDPH

Howard Kolims

Stephen McGrail
Director, MEMA