

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 03/18/03

EDO CONTROL: G20030086
DOC DT: 02/14/03
FINAL REPLY:

Senator Joseph I. Lieberman

TO:

Chairman Meserve

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** GRN **

CRC NO: 03-0102

Travers, EDO

DESC:

ROUTING:

Safety Issues with Millstone (Gertrude Birk)

Travers
Paperiello
Kane
Norry
Craig
Burns/Cyr
Zimmerman, NSIR
Miller, RI

DATE: 02/26/03

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Collins

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN
CONNECTICUT

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ARMED SERVICES
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
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United States Senate

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February 14, 2003

Hon. Richard A. Meserve
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

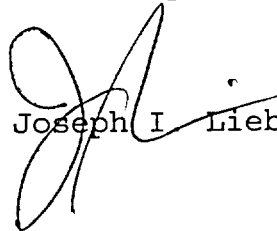
Dear Chairman Meserve:

I'm enclosing a copy of a letter and background material which I recently received from one of my constituents, Gertrude Birk, who expressed concern about safety issues relating to the Millstone nuclear power plant.

I would appreciate it if you would provide me with information that addresses the issues my constituent has raised.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Joseph I. Lieberman

JIL:vh
Enclosure

Nov. 22 102

Senator Lieberman!

If our leadership truly cares,
They would close down Mitstone
And for taking money from
the homeland security fund for
Route 11 NO

No to Mitstone

No to Route 11

The more things change,
The more they stay insane!

Gertrud Birk

49 Grouse Circle

East Lyme

Gertrud Birk



Ro 11 May Move Quickly Under Federal Order

Greenway Authority shifting into high gear

by **Dylan Davis Gaffney**
Staff Reporter

An Executive Order number 13274 was signed September 18 by President Bush and may move Route 11 from the planning to the implementation stage. The initiative of the order reads, "The development and implementation of transportation infrastructure projects in an efficient and environmentally sound manner is essential to the well-being of the American people and a strong American economy. Executive departments and agencies shall take appropriate actions, to the extent consistent with applicable laws and available resources, to promote environmental

stewardship in the Nation's transportation system and expedite environmental review of high-priority transportation infrastructure projects." In other words, the action to move on stalled projects is considered a top down initiative and the executive order will put many road projects on a fast track.

The governors of each state are in the process of sending in project recommendations under a November 12 deadline. Governor Rowland got on board early, sending two recommendations September 26 to Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta. Those sent were the

See Route 11 page 5

No Route 11

Route 11 May Move Quickly Under Federal Order

Con't from page 1

extension of Route 11 and a Route 6 connection from Bolton to Windham. Roughly 20 projects are to be chosen by the end of the year, according to State Director of Environmental Planning Edgar T. Hurle, who added that the schedule would most likely be a rolling one. That is, as projects go to completion, others will be reviewed.

To get things moving along, the order includes the creation of an interagency "Transportation Infrastructure Streamlining Task Force." The Task Force will promote interagency cooperation and establish mechanisms to coordinate federal, state, tribal and local agencies through the approval and permitting process, while in compliance with applicable laws and environmental protection. It will be chaired by Mineta and will include the secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense and the Interior as well as the Administrator of the EPA, Chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality.

In choosing to submit Route 11 for consideration, Governor Rowland said, "Its completion will provide a needed link between the capitol area and the growing urbanized areas along the coast." The Route 11 extension would affect many living in southeastern Connecticut, extending the route from its current ending point at Route 82 in Salem, southerly through Montville, East Lyme and Waterford, terminating in the vicinity

of the existing Interstate 95/Interstate 395. The project has an anticipated cost of \$410 million.

The report on Route 11 being considered by Mineta for "project streamlining" cites the need to extend the road separating local and drive through traffic and to meet projected future peak traffic demands. Working with compatibility issues it outlined the goal, "To meet local, regional and statewide transportation needs while observing local growth and development goals and attempting to reduce excess burden on the corridor communities." National importance was given to Route 11 as well, and it read, "It would provide increased access to the Navy Submarine Base in Groton and would be beneficial to national security and essential to regional evacuation planning."

Part of the criteria to be chosen said Hurle, was the amount of public support. "Overall, there are very few opponents for this project," he said, noting that all four corridor communities are strongly in favor of it, along with the governor's office and the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, which recently sent in an endorsement to Mineta. That is not always the case with projects; he pointed out. "That doesn't mean everyone is on board," he added. Those who will have construction in their backyard are never happy with new road, he said. But using a yardstick comparison to other projects Hurle said, "There is overwhelming support

for this project."

Anticipated controversies were recognized in the submitted report. "The New England Region of the EPA has indicated that the Route 11 project, being a highway on a new location, will be a strong candidate for a Section 404 (c) veto. The issue of habitat fragmentation is a main concern of that agency and the Fish and Wildlife Service."

Hurle said the EPA can veto the Army Corps of Engineer's stamp of approval on wetlands projects, but noted that the veto has been used very few times nationally. He added, "The EPA has gone on record as not liking any new road projects."

Other federal agencies that would be involved in the proposed project include the Federal Highway Administration in Connecticut, the US Environmental Protection Agency and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

With many feeling the project will fall under the new Federal Task Force, the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission met in October to prepare. The Greenway Commission was created September 2001 and consists of representatives from the four towns impacted, the state Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Transportation. The commission is not unlike the Niantic River Gateway Commission, which formed from enabling state legislation and whose local fight against development in the Oswegatchie Hills has been well documented.

The main thrust of the Greenway Authority Commission involves defining the land purchases and easements along the proposed new road. The recommendation is for one continuous connection along the road to provide uninterrupted access for wild-

life, thereby sustaining bio-diversity in the region. Possible low impact recreation is being entertained, but linked, uninterrupted land is the main concern, with the ultimate goal found in protection from urban sprawl and industrial parks.

With an Office of Policy Management grant of \$25,000 and a Federal Highway Administration grant of \$900,000 expected, the commission is well on its way to defining the land acquisition areas, forming subcommittees to work with local town planners and Land Trust representatives. Part of the grant money will go to hiring an appraiser, attorney, engineer and environmental specialists. The next meeting is planned for November 21 at the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments in Norwich.

Commentary

Letters to the Tymes

Lack of Vision and Leadership Hurting EL Taxpayer **To the Editor of The Tymes:**

The recent publicity and controversy surrounding several pending development projects in East Lyme, illustrates the need for the town to develop a consistent and comprehensive strategy to deal with this issue.

Although the Stop and Shop proposal seems to be the lightning rod, several other projects currently being developed or in the planning stage will have a major impact on the environmental and financial status of the town. Two large housing developments that will add hundreds of upscale homes to the community are currently in process. One of these developments potentially will adversely impact the Lake Pattagansett aquifer through storm run-off and insecticide contamination from the existing apple orchards. To date, legal efforts to limit the scope of this project have failed and our local elected officials continue to support completion of this development. These projects will add hundreds of children to an overstressed underfunded school system, put millions into the developer's pockets and add nothing to the town's tax base. In addition to these projects, there is a very real possibility that the Oswegatchie Hills area will see large scale residential development and the proposed completion of Route 11 through East Lyme will impact the quality of life for many who reside or do business in town.

Clearly we are at crossroads relative to development. It is time to deal with this issue head on before it is too late. Despite a call for change nothing has been done. In the past, I have suggested that the town seriously consider combining the Zoning and Planning Commission's into one entity. This model is used in most town's and is far more effective in dealing with development issues than our current system which relegates planning to an advisory function with no real powers. Our elected officials also need to look at the imposition of impact fees for large scale residential developments. These fees would be established based on the values and size of the homes and could be used to pay for education, police, fire, and senior services. The town should also look toward implementing a residential building moratorium in order to assess the town's ability to provide water, sewers, police and other basic services along with the school system's ability to cope with expanding enrollments. Finally, an advisory panel should be established to investigate the real impact the completion of Route 11 will have on East Lyme. To date our elected officials have left too many questions unanswered in their eagerness to embrace this project.

It is up to the citizens of East Lyme to demand that these common sense changes occur. Special interests who stand to profit by maintaining the status quo clearly have won the day. The town's strategy in Oswegatchie Hills has failed and it now faces a protracted legal battle as it does over the Stop and Shop issue. In the end the taxpayer winds up paying for the mistakes and miscalculations of our leaders.

Rocco R. Tricarico
East Lyme



SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS IN THE EVENT OF A RADIOLOGICAL INCIDENT AT MILLSTONE STATION IN WATERFORD, CONNECTICUT



FOR INDIVIDUALS IN EAST LYME, GROTON CITY, GROTON TOWN, NEW LONDON, OLD LYME, WATERFORD, FISHERS ISLAND, NY AND PORTIONS OF LEDYARD, LYME AND MONTVILLE

Emergency Alert Signal

If you hear a steady tone lasting approximately three (3) minutes, listen to the Emergency Alert System (EAS) radio or television stations below for more detailed information and any instructions.

| <u>Radio Stations</u> | <u>Radio Stations</u> | <u>Radio Stations</u> | <u>Radio Stations</u> | <u>Radio Stations</u> | <u>Radio Stations</u> | <u>TV Stations</u> | <u>TV Stations</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| WTIC 1080 AM | WICH 1310 AM | WDRC 102.9 FM | WCTY 97.7 FM | WAXK 102.3 FM | WQGN 105.5 FM | WFSB-Ch. 3 | WTIC-Ch. 61 |
| WSUB 980 AM | WLIS 1420 AM | WNPR 89.1 FM | WNLC 98.7 FM | WIHS 104.9 FM | WBMW 106.5 FM | WTNH-Ch. 8 | WHPX-Ch. 26 |
| WMRD 1150 AM | WTIC 96.5 FM | WPKT 90.5 FM | WKNL 100.9 FM | | | WVIT-Ch. 30 | |

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- Listen to the Emergency Alert System (EAS) station on your radio or television for emergency instructions. Stay calm.
- Notify your neighbors of the alert.
- For more information please refer to pages 2 and 3 of the Yellow Pages.

SCHOOLS:

- When schools are in session and an evacuation is ordered during the school day, students will be evacuated as a class to the same host community as the general public for that town.
- Parents should pick up their children at the reception center designated for their community.
- Parents are asked **not** to pick up their children at school - they will be reunited at the reception center.
- Signs will be posted to indicate that the school has been evacuated to the host community.

IF YOU ARE ADVISED TO:

TAKE SHELTER:

- Stay indoors and close all windows, doors and fireplace dampers.
- Turn off fans and air conditioners and other devices that draw in outside air.

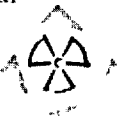
EVACUATE:

- Lock your home, office, etc. and close all windows, doors, fireplace dampers or other devices that draw in outside air.
- Proceed as directed by the EAS instructions over the radio/TV. (see back)
- What to bring: Medications, cash, checkbook, credit cards, baby supplies, clothes, toiletries, blankets, pillows, flashlight, batteries, important documents, and your KI (IOSAT™) if accessible. KI will also be available at your host community.
- Pets CANNOT be taken to American Red Cross shelters. Arrangements for them may include leaving a supply of food and water, or a predetermined individual plan to leave them at a veterinarian or kennel outside of the 10 mile emergency planning zone (EPZ).

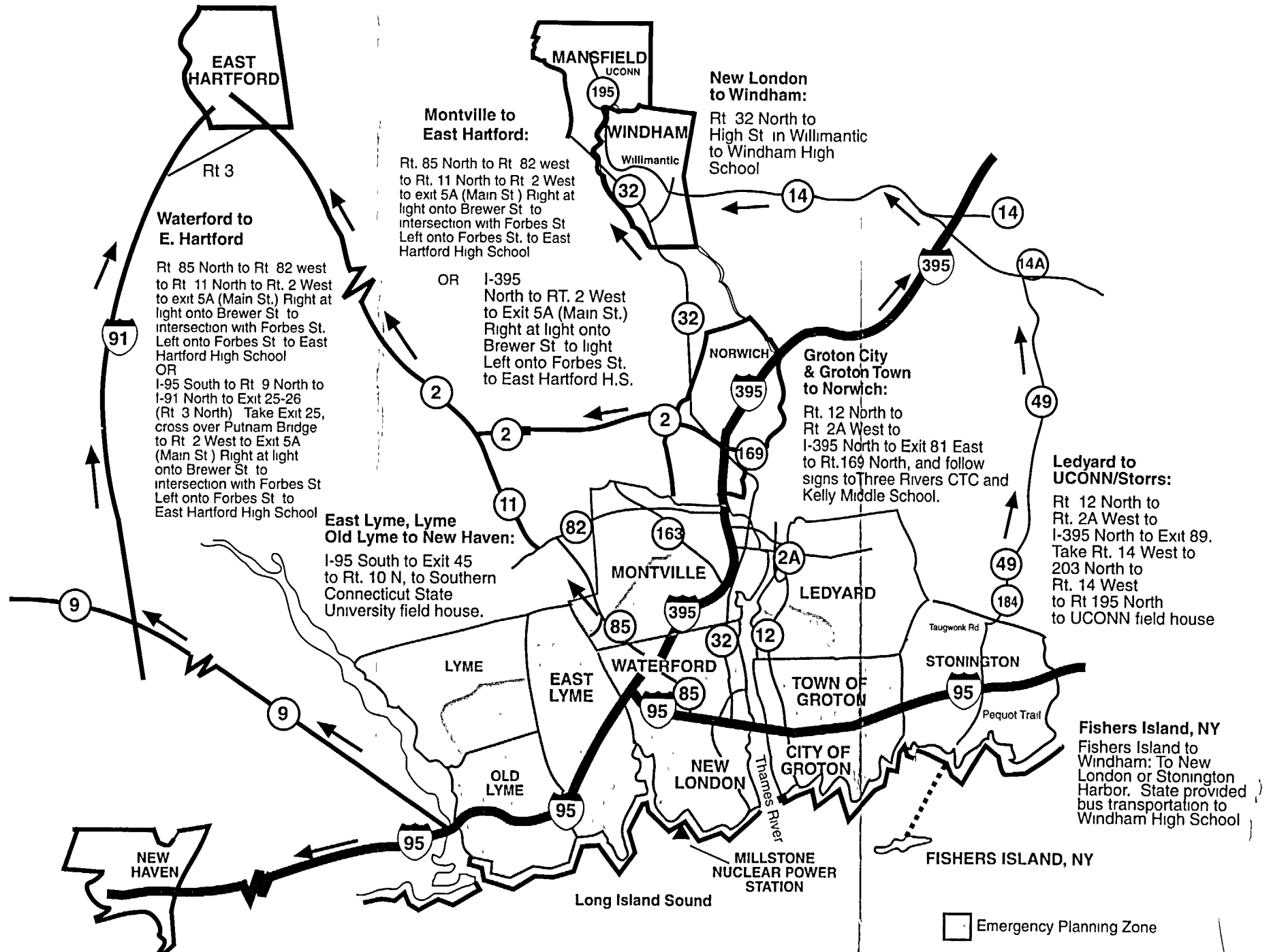
TAKE POTASSIUM IODIDE (KI):

- Do not take KI unless specifically told to by State officials.
- Do not take more KI than directed. KI is not an anti-radiation pill. Taking more than the recommended dose will not be more effective and may increase the risk of side effects. One dose protects the thyroid for 24 hours.
- Individuals who do not have KI will be able to obtain KI at their Host Community Reception Center.
- **Important:** Potassium Iodide (KI), under the brand name IOSAT™, is an over-the-counter drug that protects the thyroid from absorbing radioactive iodine, only one of the possible radioactive materials that may be released during an incident at a nuclear power plant. Individuals allergic to iodine should not take KI.

SPECIAL NEEDS: If you or someone you know has special needs, including physical or transportation needs, please register annually with your local Emergency Management Office. Special needs cards are mailed out each year to residents in the towns listed above. Information will be kept confidential.



EMERGENCY PLANNING ZONE (EPZ) Evacuation Routes





Keeping Connecticut Healthy

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



Important: Nuclear Preparedness Health Information

September 2002

Dear Resident of the Millstone Emergency Planning Zone:

In this envelope you will find two packets containing two Potassium Iodide (brand name IOSAT™) tablets each, along with instructions for their use.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) offered to provide every state with a nuclear power plant an initial supply of potassium iodide, known by its chemical name "KI." This offer was for the population within 10 miles of each operating nuclear plant, also known as the "Emergency Planning Zone" (EPZ). Governor John G. Rowland accepted the NRC's offer of KI to enhance the state's existing Radiological Emergency Response Plan for Millstone Power Station in Waterford, Connecticut.

The Governor immediately tasked a multi-agency work group to develop a plan to distribute KI to people who live and work in the EPZ. This mailing represents the first phase of Connecticut's distribution plan. KI will also be distributed through an on-going multi-phased process including:

- Local town offices,
- Special KI distribution days,
- Schools, health-care facilities, and other special-needs facilities, and
- Host Communities (**only to be used in the event of an actual nuclear emergency evacuation**)

The shelf life for KI is approximately five years. Households with more than four members may obtain additional KI tablets at local municipal offices or during special distribution days to be announced in local media. It is recommended that you keep the pills in a safe and accessible location.

Combined with the proper public information, KI distribution within the EPZ is a positive addition to the state's nuclear emergency planning. **For more detailed information about KI, including possible side effects and other concerns regarding taking KI, please see the following documents enclosed with this letter:**

- ***"IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE USE OF POTASSIUM IODIDE (KI) TABLETS"***
- ***"SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS IN THE EVENT OF A RADIOLOGICAL INCIDENT AT MILLSTONE STATION IN WATERFORD, CONNECTICUT"***

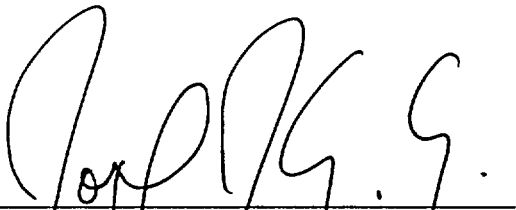
For individual medical questions and more guidance for young children, especially newborns, please consult your doctor or pediatrician. Additional information, including the guidance of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, may be found on the Connecticut Department of Public Health's web site at www.dph.state.ct.us.

It is important to educate yourself and others about all the proper steps to take in the event of a nuclear emergency, including evacuation and sheltering, by:

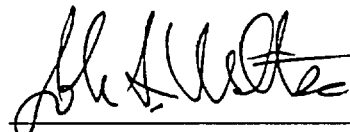
- Reading the emergency planning guidebook which is distributed each year in your area; and
- Reviewing emergency information located in the Yellow Pages section of your telephone book.

The state is taking this action as a continuing effort to enhance public safety for residents in the Millstone EPZ. Please read the enclosed materials so that you understand what actions you may need to take in an emergency.

Sincerely,



Joxel Garcia, M.D., M.B.A., Commissioner
CT Department of Public Health



John T. Wiltse, Director
CT Office of Emergency Management



Paul Eccard, First Selectman
Town of Waterford
State KI Work Group



Wayne Fraser, First Selectman
Town of East Lyme
State KI Work Group



Richard Brown, City Manager
City of New London
State KI Work Group

Para obtener la versión en Español de esta hoja, por favor de llamar al 860-566-4586.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE USE OF POTASSIUM IODIDE (KI) TABLETS

The State of Connecticut is making potassium iodide tablets (brand name IOSAT™) available to residents and workers within the 10-mile emergency planning zone (EPZ) around Millstone Power Station in Waterford, CT. The affected communities include: **East Lyme, Old Lyme, Waterford, New London, Groton City, Groton Town, Fishers Island, NY**, and portions of Lyme, Montville, and Ledyard.

What is potassium iodide (KI)?

Potassium iodide, also known as KI, is a form of iodine. KI helps protect your thyroid gland when there is a chance you might be exposed to a harmful amount of radioactive iodine.

Why is the thyroid gland important and why is radioactive iodine harmful?

The thyroid gland uses iodine to make hormones that control your body's metabolism. Radioactive iodine can harm your thyroid gland and can increase your risk of developing thyroid cancer years after exposure. Only operating nuclear power stations produce large amounts of the type of radioactive iodine that KI protects against. The Connecticut Yankee power station in Haddam, CT, no longer operates and does not produce this type of radioactive iodine.

How can I protect myself in the event of an emergency at Millstone Power Station?

You should leave the area or take shelter as state officials tell you. This is the only sure way to protect yourself from being exposed to radioactive materials that might be released in an accident at Millstone Power Station. You may also be told to take KI to increase your level of thyroid protection if radioactive iodine is present. Stay tuned to your local television and radio stations for any emergency instructions.

When should I take KI?

You will be told when to take KI through the Emergency Alert System (EAS) broadcast over your local television and radio stations. Not every radiation emergency will result in the release of radioactive iodine. To provide maximum effectiveness, KI should be taken four hours or less before exposure. This will allow time for the KI to be taken up into the bloodstream and to the thyroid before exposure. KI will still stop most of the radioactive iodine if taken up to four hours after exposure.

How much KI should I/my family members take?

Connecticut follows what the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) says to take during an emergency. You should take:

- 1 pill (130 mg) if you are 1 year old or older.
- ½ pill (65 mg) if you are under 1 year old.

Pills can be taken either whole or broken and mixed in with food or liquid. One dose of KI provides 24-hours of thyroid protection. Do not take extra pills after you leave the area. After you leave the area you are no longer exposed to radioactive iodine. **You may cause serious medical problems if you take extra pills. Extra pills will not protect you more.**

The FDA has studied the safety of KI and concluded that small mistakes in dosing when you break or crush pills are not likely to cause serious illness. The FDA recently provided additional guidance on what is the smallest amount of KI you can take and still protect the thyroid. The smaller amounts may reduce the risk of side effects such as a minor upset stomach or rash. It may not be practical to administer very small doses during an emergency. If you want to use smaller doses, the FDA recommends taking the following minimum amount of KI:

- 1 pill (130 mg) for anyone over 18 years old.
- ½ pill (65 mg) for children between 3-18 years old.
- ¼ pill (32 mg) for children between 1 month and 3 years old.
- ⅛ pill (16 mg) for children under 1 month old.

Are there other concerns regarding taking KI?

- Do not take KI if you are allergic to iodine.
Do not take KI if you have chronic hives, lupus, or other condition with hypocomplementemic vasculitis.
- Persons with Graves disease and people taking certain heart medicines should talk with their doctor before there is an emergency to decide whether or not to use KI

Who will benefit most from taking KI in the event of a release of radioactive iodine?

Children and young adults under 40 years old benefit the most. At younger ages a person's thyroid gland is going through faster changes. The faster changes increase the chance of thyroid cancer if exposed to radioactive iodine. Thyroid cancer can take years to show up after exposure to radioactive iodine. For people over 40, KI is mainly needed to stop a condition called hypothyroidism. This condition can develop after a very large exposure to radioactive iodine and cause the thyroid to not operate properly.

Does KI protect against other radioactive materials or devices, such as a "dirty bomb"?

No. KI does NOT protect against other radioactive materials that might be released during a nuclear power station emergency. Other radioactive materials harm other parts of your body. This is why you are told to evacuate or take shelter in an emergency. KI does not replace evacuation or sheltering. It only adds to your safety in certain cases.

KI will not protect you against a "dirty bomb". A dirty bomb is an ordinary bomb that spreads radioactive material when it explodes. The radioactive material used in a dirty bomb would not include radioactive iodine.

Where can I get KI?

People who live and work within a ten-mile area around Millstone Power Station will receive KI at no cost. If you live in this area, your household will receive KI in the mail. Large employers in this area will be offered KI to distribute to their workers. If you work for a smaller employer, or need additional pills for your household, you will be able to pick up KI at the local town hall. During an emergency, KI will only be available at your host community reception center. You do not need a prescription to purchase KI on your own. KI can be purchased over the Internet and at certain pharmacies. Please see the Department of Public Health website (www.dph.state.ct.us) or call the Office of Emergency Management at (860) 566-4586 for more information.