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State of New Jersey

Department of Environmental Protection

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December 16, 2005

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STP

Janet R. Schlueter, Director
Office of State and Tribal Programs
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Director Schlueter:

Thank you for your letter of November 10, 2005 regarding the Federal Drug Administration's (FDA) approval of ThyroShield (potassium iodide oral solution for use in children) and its availability to states upon request.

The New Jersey Radiation Accident Response Act (N.J.S.A. 26:2D-37 et seq.) establishes that the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) evaluate "...the feasibility and desirability of the State purchase and distribution of potassium iodide in order to minimize the adverse effects of the radiation accident."

On March 19, 2002, the DHSS Commissioner petitioned the NRC and received KI for distribution to the public within the 10-mile emergency planning zones around the two nuclear generating sites in New Jersey. On June 11, 2002 the DHSS convened and facilitated a meeting of key technical and policy staff from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management (SPOEM), Office of Counter Terrorism, Board of Public Utilities, Office of the Governor, and Medical Emergency and Disaster Preparedness and Response Expert Panel for the purpose of crafting a sound approach to the stockpiling and distribution of KI. The New Jersey KI policy requires the DHSS to take subsequent actions and amend the policy as needed. Department of Health and Senior Services Commissioner Jacobs will be responding to your letter offering ThyroShield to New Jersey for consideration. As in the past the DEP will continue to provide technical support and guidance upon request.

SISP Review Complete

STP-006 Template
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Thank you for bringing this matter of importance to my attention.

Sincerely,


Jill Lipoti, Ph.D.
Director

c: David W. Gruber, Assistant Commissioner, DHSS