

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

December 19, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Malcolm Ernst, Leader, Task Group No. 6

FROM:

Frederick Herr, Task Group No. 6

SUBJECT:

COMMERCIAL AVAILABILITY OF POTASSIUM IODIDE AS A THYROID

BLOCKING AGENT

On December 18, 1979, I spoke to Dr. William Darrow, Senior Vice President, Research and Medical Director, Wallace Laboratories Division of Carter-Wallace, Inc. (609-655-6000) regarding that company's approved New Drug Applications (NDAs) for the manufacture of potassium iodide as a thyroid blocking agent.

Dr. Darrow told me Wallace Laboratories had two NDAs approved by the Food and Drug Administration: one for 130 mg. scored tablets, and one for saturated solution. The letters from the FDA approving the NDAs were signed November 11, 1979. The potassium iodide will be sold under the trade name "Thyro-Block".

Dr. Darrow said the price Wallace Laboratories will be charging for potassium iodide is "sensitive" company information which he could not provide me without company approval. He did add, however, that the cost is "modest".

The pills will be packaged 14 to a bottle; a sufficient supply for one individual for 14 days. The solution will be in 1 oz. plastic bottles, the smallest economical size, with calibrated droppers and will contain enough potassium iodide for 15 or 16 people throughout an emergency.

Task Group No. 6

NRC/TMI Special Inquiry Group

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