

JE HQ FILE COPY
PDR
STMB

August 20, 1982

Mr. Garrett Nielsen
Division of Emergency
Government
State of Wisconsin
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
P.O. Box 7865
Madison, WI 53707-7865

Dear Mr. Nielsen:

This is in response to Mr. LaFleur's letter dated August 3, 1982 regarding Wisconsin's policy on the use of potassium iodide (KI).

With regard to your policy element contained in paragraph 2, the wearing of protective clothing by individuals unexpectedly exposed to radioactive iodine releases will have no effect whatever in reducing absorption by the thyroid. Respiratory protection, the use of KI, and isolation from the atmospheric release are the only certain methods of reducing or avoiding such exposure.

As stated in Mr. Grimes' testimony before the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, NRC has found no compelling reason to recommend the distribution of KI to the general public within the ten mile EPZ for thyroid blocking. You may wish to reconsider your proposed KI policy elements contained in paragraphs 1, 4, and 7 regarding distribution to the general public.

With regard to your policy element contained in paragraph 5, it is recommended that one bottle of KI per emergency worker be stockpiled in each risk county. A standard bottle contains fourteen tablets, a quantity more than sufficient to provide thyroid protection over the

8209100029 820820
PDR STPRG ESGWI PDR

OFFICE	RIII	RIII					
SURNAME	Menczer/bs	Axelsson					
DATE	8/20/82						

Mr. Garrett Nielsen

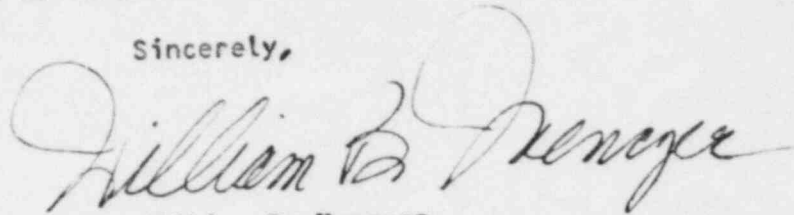
-2-

August 20, 1982

anticipated period of radioiodine releases during an accident. One bottle per worker will simplify the distribution process.

Please let me know if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



William B. Menczer
Regional State Liaison Officer

cc: B.K. Grimes, IE
J.D. Saltzman, OSP
E.W. Hakala, FEMA V
PDR

OFFICE						
SURNAME						
DATE						