

MEMORANDUM TO:

Chairman Jackson
 Commissioner Dicus
 Commissioner Diaz
 Commissioner McGaffigan

August 28, 1997

FROM:

L. Joseph Callan *Original signed by*
 Executive Director for Operations *L. Joseph Callan*

C. Reganella for

SUBJECT:

STAFF'S PLAN TO INFORM NRC LICENSEES OF THE NEED TO
 DISCUSS REVISED FEDERAL POLICY ON KI WITH STATE AND
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

On June 30, 1997, the staff was informed by a Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) of the Commission's approval of Option 2 in SECY-97-124, on a revised Federal policy regarding the use of potassium iodide (KI) following reactor accidents. In the subject SRM, the Commission directed the staff to inform NRC licensees of this change in policy and the need for those licensees to discuss this matter, as part of the emergency response planning, with their counterparts in State and local agencies.

The staff has informed FEMA of the Commission's decision and will work with the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC) to ensure that the revised Federal policy on KI is consistent with the Commission's directive. Also, in response to the Commission's direction, the staff will ensure that the FRPCC includes in the revised Federal policy the requirement for offsite emergency planners in each of the Emergency Planning Zones (EPZ) to discuss this matter among themselves to coordinate any changes to emergency plans resulting from the revised Federal policy. After FEMA publishes in the Federal Register the final revised Federal policy statement on KI, the staff intends to inform NRC licensees via a generic communication of the need to discuss the revised policy with their State and local counterparts and coordinate any changes to their emergency plans. The staff will be presenting and discussing the revised Federal policy on KI at the annual All Agreement States meeting on October 16, 1997, and the annual Regulatory Information Conference that will be held on April 14 through 15, 1998. Also, the staff has requested this topic to be part of the agenda for the annual Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors meeting that will be held on May 17 through 20, 1998.

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