

## **Lyme-Old Lyme Public Schools District Millstone Power Station Readiness Plan**

The Lyme-Old Lyme Schools are committed to ensuring the safety of our students and staff. A district Safety Committee, which includes Emergency Preparedness representatives from both Lyme and Old Lyme, meets throughout the year to review emergency procedures, provide necessary training, and plan emergency drills. In addition to planning responses to fire, intruder, and medical emergencies, this committee also has established a district plan for the unlikely event of a nuclear emergency as four of our schools, not including Lyme Consolidated School, are located within the emergency planning zone (EPZ) for the Millstone Nuclear Power Plant. This hazard is not our only consideration in our emergency planning, but it is a significant consideration.

The nuclear response plan developed by the district Safety Committee, in direct consultation with the local and state emergency preparedness agencies, addresses a local response as well as a plan to distribute Potassium Iodide tablets to staff and students if directed to do so by the Governor.

Should there be a nuclear emergency, the first and more likely scenario considered would involve a slow-moving type of event. In this scenario, local and state officials will have enough time to gather information about the situation and prepare for any decisions that would need to be made to protect the health and safety of the public. In this case, the school district will take one of the following actions:

- 1) Follow our regular dismissal procedures thereby putting students in the care of their parents.
- 2) Follow our regular early dismissal procedures, again putting students in the care of their parents.
- 3) Cancel school for the day or multiple days allowing students to remain at home in the care of their parents.

The main goal when there is no immediate threat to health and safety is reunifying children with their families so that the family can continue to monitor the situation, along with the rest of the population, and prepare to follow further instructions from local and state officials.

The second scenario may involve an event that requires a faster response. In this case, local officials will instruct the school district to take one or more of the following actions:

- 1) For students and staff, shelter in place actions would be directed similar to procedures already utilized during our lockdown drills.
- 2) If an evacuation is considered necessary by emergency management officials, schools will follow our existing procedures, which include the relocation of the school population to Lyme Consolidated School. Once there, the children would safely shelter in place and be able to be reunited with their parents. If, however, a Governor's directive to evacuate is given before local

officials have made the decision to move students outside the ten mile radius to Lyme Consolidated School, the district is then obligated to transport students and staff to the state designated evacuation facility at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven.

3) State public health officials may order the administration (via ingestion) of Potassium Iodide (KI)\*. If you have authorized the school to provide it to your child, the school will administer KI as directed by state officials.

**\*Potassium Iodide Tablets:** The Governor, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, has the authority to direct school personnel to administer Potassium Iodide pills to staff and students. 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. Taking KI saturates the thyroid with harmless iodine and prevents radioactive iodine from being absorbed. KI is available in every school and at the New Haven reception center.

As part of the school registration process, we ask that you complete a form indicating permission or refusal for school personnel to administer Potassium Iodide tablets in accordance with state directive. For most individuals, taking KI is safe, however, adverse reactions are possible in persons having existing thyroid conditions and those with an allergy to iodine. Consult your physician if you have concerns about the safety of KI for your children.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.dom.com/library/domcom/pdfs/electric-generation/nuclear/millstone-guidebook-hres.pdf?la=en>

Again, the safety of our children is our utmost priority. We will continue to work with emergency preparedness partners at all levels toward building a more prepared, responsive, and resilient community. Should you have any questions regarding emergency planning, please contact us.