

*Adopted:* August 7, 2006

*Revised:* \_\_\_\_\_

### **534 Radiological Emergency Plan (REP) for Schools Potassium Iodide (KI) Distribution**

#### **Use of Potassium Iodide (KI) in the Unlikely Event of a Nuclear Generating Plant Incident**

##### **Policy:**

In order to minimize health and safety risks to staff and students, Becker School District will distribute potassium iodide (KI) according to the Food and Drug Administration's recommended dosages in the unlikely event of, and potential exposure to, radioactive material from Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. Participation requires signed prior consent from a parent or guardian for children under 18 years of age authorizing administration. Staff and visitors within a participating school will also be offered KI at the time of dispensing. The KI distribution plan designed by the licensed school nurse or school district shall designate trained individuals to dispense KI.

##### **Rationale:**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Food and Drug Administration have found potassium iodide (KI), a over-the-counter medication, if taken just prior to or within four hours of exposure to a plume from a nuclear generating plant, blocks the uptake of radioactive iodine by the thyroid gland and reduces the risk of thyroid cancer. Children are the most vulnerable to the effects of this type of radiation and should be offered protection during a nuclear generating plant event. KI does not offer protection to any other part of the body except the thyroid and only from the uptake of radioactive iodide.

##### **Protocol/Procedures:**

KI administration will only occur in the unlikely event that timely evacuation of staff and students to designated sister schools is not possible. KI distribution may occur at school prior to evacuation, on a bus during evacuation or in a shelter-in-place situation.

In the event of a declaration of a General Emergency and the students are still within the 10-mile emergency planning zone, the Chief Medical Officer for the State of Minnesota, or his/her designee, will provide medical authorization for the administration of KI. The county emergency management agency will relay the authorization to the school district superintendent. The licensed school nurse then initiates the distribution of KI in accordance with school district protocol and individual school emergency response procedures.

School district protocol will include annual notification of parents, solicitation of signed authorizations, tracking students with and without signed authorizations, licensed school

nurse's delegation of KI administration to trained core crisis teams, distribution and documentation of KI, acquisition, safe storage and quarterly monitoring of the stockpile;

Adequate doses of KI (pill and liquid forms) will be provided by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management at no cost to the school districts within 10 miles of each nuclear generating plant.

**SOURCES** from other states; school district policies:

<http://www.neola.com/beaverlocal-oh/search/policies/po5330.01.htm>

<http://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/dyrsd/policies/Potassium%20Iodide%20%2010-8-04doc.pdf>

<http://www.yorktown.org/policymanual/5000/5421-ki-distribution.pdf>

[http://apps.oswego.org/policy/policy\\_detail.cfm?printme=260](http://apps.oswego.org/policy/policy_detail.cfm?printme=260)