

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

The Lyme-Old Lyme Public School System is committed to ensuring safety for students. 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 preparedness 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.

The nuclear response plan developed by the District Safety Committee, in direct consultation with the local and state emergency preparedness agencies, addresses a local pre-evacuation relocation plan as well as a plan to distribute Potassium Iodide tablets to staff and students if directed to do so by the Governor. These two plan components are described below.

Pre-Evacuation Relocation Plan: Prior to receiving a state directive to evacuate the area within a ten mile radius of Millstone Nuclear Plant, the district may choose to transport students from the four schools located in Old Lyme (LOLHS, LOLMS, Center School, and Mile Creek) to Lyme Consolidated School which is outside the ten mile radius. This intermediate step would allow families to pick up their children locally rather than having to go to the evacuation facility at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven to reunite with their children. If, however, the Governor's directive to evacuate is given before we have made the local decision to move our students outside the ten mile radius to Lyme Consolidated School, we will then be obligated to transport students to the state designated evacuation facility at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven.

Potassium Iodide Tablets: The Governor, in consultation with the Commission of the Public Health, also 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.

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.

“Safety Planning Information for Neighbors of Millstone Station”. CT Dept of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Hartford, CT.