

Information Report

Title: KI Pill Distribution Plan

Report Number: CEMC-2024-01

Director: Community Services

Manager: Emergency Services

Meeting Date:

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

Executive Summary:

The Municipality of Kincardine along with Bruce Power, Huron Perth Public Health and Grey Bruce Public Health are working together to replenish the supply of KI (Potassium Iodide) pills ensuring everyone that requires them for various circumstances in the unlikely case of a nuclear facility emergency receives them. To couple this initiative, we are also providing educational material in various formats to ensure the public understands the purpose of KI pills and emergency management functions/services/opportunities in general.

Context and Background Information:

In 2015, a requirement was put in place to make potassium iodide pills/tablets available to households/businesses/institutions within 10km of sites (DPZ – Detailed Planning Zone). The current stock of KI pills that were pre-distributed in 2015 is set to expire in 2025 (10-year shelf life).

KI (the chemical name for Potassium Iodide) is a salt of stable (not radioactive) iodine. Stable iodine is an essential nutrient needed in very small quantities for the thyroid gland to function properly. When swallowed, KI fills up the thyroid with stable iodine so it cannot absorb any other iodine for a period of time. KI protects against radioactive iodine that may be found in emissions in the unlikely event of a nuclear emergency.

Packages including the following, will be mailed to all residents within the DPZ:

- KI pills;
- Joint letter from Bruce Power/MOK/Public Health;
- Be Prepared Guide;
- A 5x5" foldout card on nuclear emergency sequence of events;
- 'Return to sender' FedEx envelope to mail back old KI pills to KI Canada or how to properly dispose of old KI pills;
- MOK post card with info on Alert FM / Alert Ready / and contact information;
- A pen with the 'Be Prepared' website.

Businesses in the DPZ will be physically engaged to ensure all their needs are met for a nuclear facility emergency as well as other hazards specific to Kincardine. In addition to the DPZ, all residents up to 50km in the area will be mailed a Be Prepared Guide.

The Bluewater District School Board, the Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board, and various pharmacies in the area have also been engaged to receive KI pills to replenish their existing supplies and address any other needs they may have.

The external outreach for the public to ensure a proper knowledgeable program includes:

- A news release to make residents aware we are replacing expiring KI pills;
- A social media campaign to make the public aware of the replacement campaign;
- Website updates for 'Be Prepared' to reflect the changes in 2025;
- Print ads in Kincardine and Saugeen Shores on what to expect;
- External presentations and consultation for groups such as Indigenous, schools, Amish/Mennonites, pharmacies etc.
- Customer service engagements

Consultation Overview:

Bruce County, Huron County, Grey County, CEMCs from lower tier municipalities, Bruce Power, Grey Bruce Public Health, Huron Perth Public Health and ourselves, have all been collaborating to ensure an accurate well-advertised program is delivered to the public.

Origin:

CEMC, Shane Watson

Attachments: Powerpoint (KI Pill Distribution Plan)

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Submitted by: CEMC, Shane Watson