Radiological Emergency Evacuation and Plan Preparedness

As required by state and federal law, the Oswego County Legislature has developed an emergency preparedness plan in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. In particular, this plan addresses the possibilities of any type of situation at the nuclear power plants near the City of Oswego. The Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation (CiTi) is part of this plan as our main campus and some of our satellite facilities are located within the radius of the ten-mile emergency-planning zone (EPZ) of the Nine Mile Point nuclear power plants. Essentially there are three types of action which may be taken depending on the severity of the situation:

**Sheltering:** Upon notification of a radiological emergency, students will first be sheltered within school buildings. Attendance will be taken while we wait for further instructions.

**Closing:** If enough time is available, the CiTi will close and each District will send transportation to campus to take their students to their District and, as necessary, back to their families. Adult students will also be dismissed. This response is similar to ‘snow day or early dismissal’ procedures. For more information regarding your District plans, please contact your District Superintendent.

**Evacuation:** Much more time is needed to safely and effectively evacuate CiTi students out of an endangered area. If such time is available, and if the situation is severe, the County Legislature Chairman will order CiTi to evacuate all students. Regardless of which District a student goes to, the student, will be transported directly to the Reception Center at the State Fair Grounds in Syracuse, unless there has been a release radioactive materials while still in the EPZ. In this case, students will first go to the Youth Building where radiological monitoring and decontamination will take place. Reunification with your student will take place at the Reception Center following the same pick-up procedure set forth by school district policy.

Please do not call the Emergency Management Office during and emergency. A phone number for parents and the public to call will be announced by the media and on the Oswego County Emergency Management website.

The following steps are essential for the success of our overall plan: First, listen to your radio for public announcements that the Legislature will issue as needed. Secondly, work with your District to determine their response. Third, plan for your own family’s response to an emergency or disaster. Information about preparing for nuclear power plant emergencies can be found on the Oswego County Public Emergency Response Information Calendar at [www.oswegocounty.com/emo](http://www.oswegocounty.com/emo).

To limit radiation exposure, use **TIME, DISTANCE and SHIELDING**.

Limit the amount of time outside.
Move as far away from the source as possible.
Shield yourself from exposure.
Potassium Iodide Distribution Information

Indication
Potassium iodide is indicated for thyroid blocking in the event of a radiation emergency. Staff will be directed when to distribute and assist in the administration of the medication by the CiTi Administration and at the direction of the Oswego County Emergency Management Office.

Contraindication
Potassium iodide should not be administered to those with an allergy or hypersensitivity to iodide, and those students who have been opted out by their parents or guardians.

Distribution
Instructors are designated to distribute KI tablets to their students. Supervisors are designated to distribute KI tablets to their employees. Packets containing KI tablets, instructions for administering the tablets and opt-out lists have been assembled for each class and work group. Packets for distribution to students and staff housed in the main building are stored in a labeled KI-kit located in the CiTi Security Office. Smaller kits for staff in out-buildings will be stored in the main office of each building. When notified by the Oswego County Emergency Management Office of a radiological event which prompts the activation of the CiTi Radiological Emergency Plan, KI packets will be transferred to the designated individuals for distribution among students and employees.

Dosage
All staff, Adult Education, CTE, and Exceptional Education High School students shall receive a dose of two 65mg tablets. Special Education elementary and middle school students shall receive one 65mg tablet.
Tablets should be taken by mouth with plenty of water. Classrooms outfitted with faucets can use their respective faucet as a drinking fountain. Those without a water faucet or drinking fountain may be instructed to move their class to the closest water fountain for the administration of the tablet. For individuals who cannot swallow pills, tablets may be crushed and dissolved in 8 ounces of juice or water.
Dosage Continued
Once complete, classes shall return to their respective areas and await further instructions. At no time shall students be moved outside.

Since the CiTi Campus located within the ten-mile emergency-planning zone (EPZ) the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission amended its policy on the availability and usage of the over-the-counter drug potassium iodide (KI) during a radiological emergency. As a result, New York State also revised its policy regarding providing KI to the general population in the 10-mile emergency planning zones surrounding the Nine Mile Point, Indian Point and Ginna commercial nuclear power sites.

KI is an over-the-counter drug that protects the thyroid from exposure to radioactive iodine. KI only protects one organ against one radioactive substance. It is not an alternative to evacuation or sheltering. In fact, evacuation and sheltering remain New York’s primary public protective actions in the event of an accident at any nuclear power site.

Should the County and/or State Department of Health recommend the use of KI during a radiological emergency, CiTi will have KI available on-site for your student. Evacuation from the ten-mile EPZ remains our primary protective radiological action. In the event that evacuation is not immediately possible and/or KI use is recommended by the County and/or State health officials, an appropriate dose of KI will be available for your student.

If you do not want the school to provide your student with KI in a radiological emergency, you must fill out and sign the Potassium Iodide (KI) form and send it to the Safety & Risk Office. Please note that if you do not return the form and KI use is recommended by health officials, your student will receive KI.

If you have any concerns regarding the emergency use of KI or questions on your student’s health and use of KI, please discuss this with your student’s health care provider.

Contact information
If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Safety & Risk Office:

Aleisha Hartford       Safety Coordinator   (315-963-4364)
Charlene Walther       Safety Officer       (315-963-4271)