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Date: January 14, 2020

To: Boards of Health in communities within the Pilgrim Nuclear Plant Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ), Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket.

cc: Katharine Cederberg
Planning and Nuclear Section Chief, MA Emergency Management Agency

From: John M. Priest Jr.
Director, Radiation Control Program

Subject: Potassium Iodide (KI) Information for Communities Surrounding the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

This memorandum is intended to provide important information to communities within the Pilgrim Nuclear Plant Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ), Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket.

This memo provides an update on the use and supply of potassium iodide (KI), which is a protective measure to minimize uptake of radioactive iodine by the thyroid gland in the event of a release of radioactive iodine from an operating nuclear power plant.

As you know, the Pilgrim Nuclear Plant ceased operating on May 31, 2019. As of August 2019, there is no longer a risk of exposure to radioactive iodine from the plant. As a result, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Federal Emergency Management Agency informed the Massachusetts Department of Public Health that KI is no longer necessary. Given this, DPH will not replenish KI for the communities in the Pilgrim EPZ, Cape Cod, or Islands.

Please note that potassium iodide is a salt and can be safely disposed of in municipal solid waste. It does not require prior treatment or disposal through a pharmaceutical take-back program.

If you have any questions, please contact Mario Iannaccone, Emergency Plan Supervisor for the Radiation Control Program, at 617-242-3035.