



CNSC POTASSIUM IODIDE PILL WORKING GROUP



Durham Nuclear Health Committee

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Overview

- Background
- Terms of Reference
- Working Group Membership
- Purpose
- Phase I Status
- Indigenous and Public Participation
- CNSC Advisory Committee
- Next steps

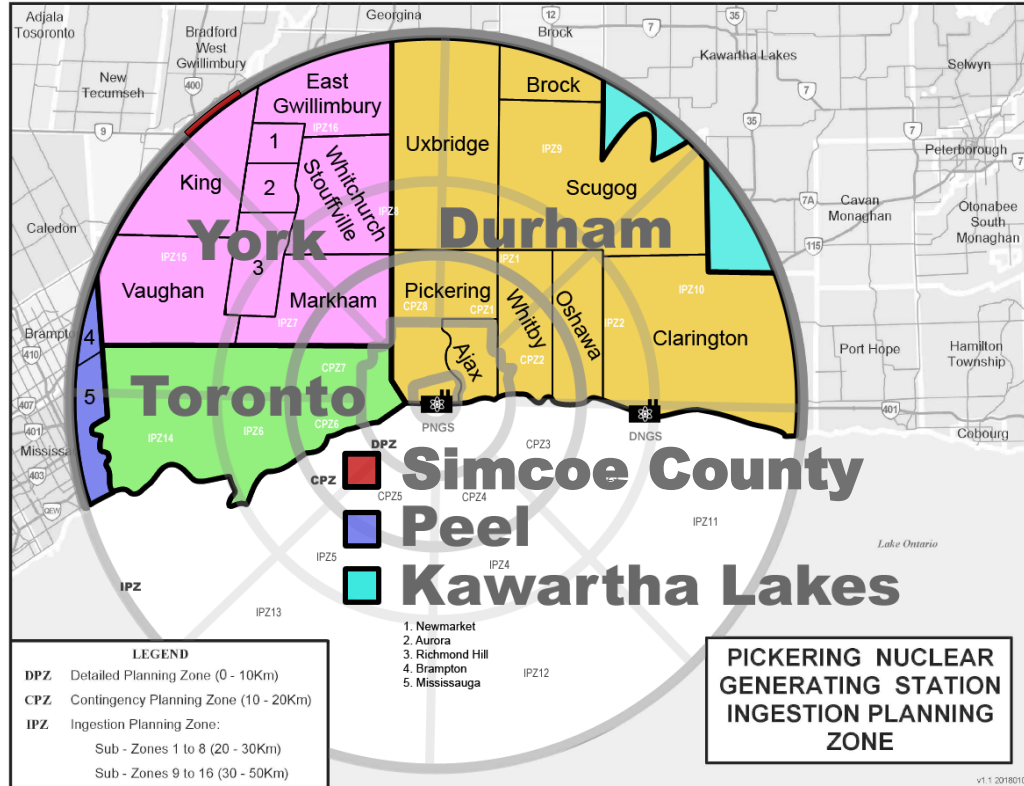


Background

- CNSC Public Hearing on the Pickering licence renewal (June 2018)
 - Intervenors raised concerns on Potassium Iodide (KI) Pill pre-distribution and distribution in an emergency in the Ingestion Planning Zone
 - Commitment by CNSC staff to form a working group to provide clarity on the roles and responsibilities for KI Pill distribution
- Commission released Detailed Record of Decision for Pickering licence renewal in January 2019



Ingestion Planning Zone (IPZ)



Terms of Reference of Working Group

- Terms of Reference drafted following the Pickering licence renewal Hearing
- Public comment period on draft held from December 24, 2018 to February 14, 2019
 - 17 submissions received
- Revised based on comments received and Commission direction in the Pickering licence renewal Record of Decision
- Signed on May 14, 2019, enacting the Working Group

Working Group Membership

- Signatories to the Terms of Reference
 - Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
 - Ontario Ministry of Health
 - Emergency Management Ontario
 - Ontario Power Generation
- Public Health Units and Emergency Management Coordinators
 - Durham, Toronto, Peel, York, Simcoe Muskoka, Kawartha Lakes and Peterborough
- Health Canada

Purpose

- Phase I, provide clarity on:
 - Current provincial and federal requirements for the distribution of KI pills
 - Means of KI pill distribution in relation to other factors associated with a nuclear emergency response
 - Considerations and education concerning KI pill emergency distribution
 - Availability and scope of public emergency preparedness information
- Phase II, direction from the Commission to:
 - Determine feasibility of pre-distribution of KI pills to all schools within the IPZ
 - Establish clear and detailed plans for the distribution of KI pills throughout the IPZ, if necessary, following the completion of Phase I

Phase I Status

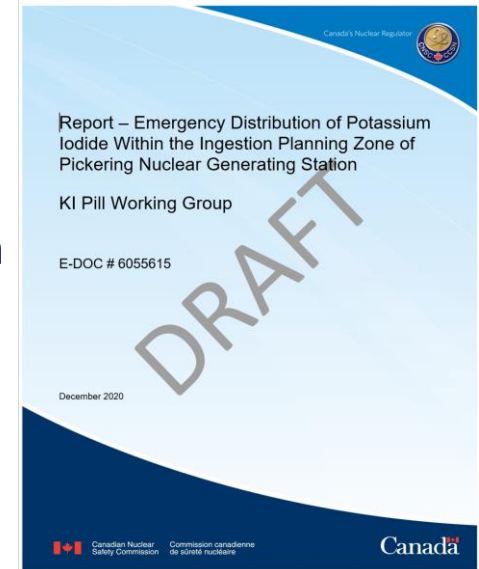
- Planning for the Phase I Workshop began in June 2019
- Workshop held in November 2019
- Draft Phase I Report developed following the workshop
 - Concurrence on the report was delayed due to Covid-19
 - Concurrence was achieved in December 2020
- Public review of draft Phase I Report anticipated to begin in February 2021



Draft Phase I Report

- Information on KI
- Overview of roles and responsibilities
- Planning for KI emergency distribution
- Concept of operations for KI emergency distribution
- Additional considerations for Phase II
 - Public awareness and education in designated and non-designated municipalities
 - Pre-staging of the centralized stockpile to municipalities in the IPZ
 - Development of pre-existing emergency communications strategy for use during an event

Goal of Phase I: Inform the public of plans in place and provide a comprehensive document to increase public awareness



Indigenous and Public Participation

- Three comment periods will be advertised on the CNSC website
 - Terms of Reference (complete)
 - Phase I Report
 - Phase II Report
- Indigenous communities to be sent Phase I and II Reports
- Anticipated Commission Proceedings on both the Phase I and II Reports
- CNSC Advisory Committee

CNSC Website

- Dedicated webpage for the Working Group launched on June 14, 2019
 - Background information
 - Terms of Reference
 - Project milestones
 - CNSC Advisory Committee
 - Quick facts on KI pills
- Additional documentation to be added on ongoing basis (e.g., plans, procedures, reports, meeting minutes)

<https://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/resources/emergency-management-and-safety/potassium-iodide-pill-working-group.cfm>

Figure 1. Pickering Nuclear Generating Station Ingestion Planning Zone

Source: Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management

Description

What is KI?

In the event of a nuclear emergency, KI is effective in reducing the threat of thyroid cancer to residents at risk of inhaling or ingesting radioactive iodine. The CNSC established regulatory requirements for nuclear power plant licensees to ensure that KI pills are pre-distributed to everyone within 10 km of all power plants. Regional, municipal and provincial authorities responsible for emergency management, including the Province of Ontario's Office of the Fire Marshal & Emergency Management and the new Brunswick Emergency Management Organization, also facilitate the pre-distribution of KI pills.

CNSC Advisory Committee (1/3)

Background

- Commitment to form the CNSC Advisory Committee was made to the Commission in November 2018
- Purpose – Ensure opportunities are provided for meaningful engagement on the outputs of the Working Group

CNSC Advisory Committee (2/3)

Membership

- Canadian Environmental Law Association
- Toronto District School Board
- Toronto Catholic District School Board
- Municipality of Kincardine
- Bruce Power
- McMaster University

CNSC Advisory Committee (3/3)

Activities

- Provided input on the Terms of Reference
- Provided input on topics to discuss at the Phase I workshop
- Meeting minutes available on the working group website

Next Steps

- Public Review Period of Phase I Report anticipated to begin in February 2021
 - Report will be posted on the CNSC website
 - CNSC will utilize social media and our subscription list to promote the public review period
- Workshop on Phase I report with the CNSC Advisory Committee following the public review period
- Commission Proceeding on Phase I Report (anticipated for fall 2021)
 - Proceedings are webcast on the CNSC website



Canadian Nuclear
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Thank You! Questions?

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