

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: John C. Hoyle, Secretary

FROM: COMMISSIONER ROGERS

SUBJECT: SECY-97-124 - PROPOSED FEDERAL POLICY REGARDING
USE OF POTASSIUM IODIDE AFTER A SEVERE ACCIDENT
AT A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Approved ^{SUBJECT} LOHMEYER _{KCH} Disapproved _____ Abstain _____

Not Participating _____ Request Discussion _____

COMMENTS: SEE ATTACHMENT.
KCH

Kenneth C. Rogers
SIGNATURE

Release Vote 1 x 1

June 25, 1997
DATE

Withhold Vote 1 1

Entered on "AS" Yes x No _____

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PDR COMMS NRCC
CORRESPONDENCE PDR

Comments of Commissioner Rogers on SECY-97-124

I believe that it is prudent to ensure the capability to administer KI as an additional emergency planning and response option, in the event of a nuclear incident, to augment evacuation and sheltering. KI should be readily available to affected populations within 24 hours of a request by state or local authorities. Furthermore, the KI availability should not be concentrated only around U.S. nuclear plants but should be nationally available to respond to fall out from possible incidents at foreign plants as well as to those at U.S. plants. While the likelihood of such events is remote, I believe they are all of comparable probability.

Therefore, I approve Option 2 of the paper which recommends adoption of the 1996 FRPPC recommendations for the use of potassium iodide following a severe accident at a nuclear power plant, as presented in Attachment 1 of the paper. While my present position may not seem to be entirely consistent with my vote on SECY-94-087 where I voted to approve the staff recommendation (in essence Option 3(b)) the situation today is different than it was in 1994. Today we have an established Federal stockpile, to be located at a minimum of 3 locations nationally, and with the KI available for distribution within 4 to 6 hours anywhere in the U.S. Thus, it is not necessary for the NRC to purchase and supply to the states the KI for local stockpiles. My primary concern in 1994 was to ensure a readily available supply and source of KI. With the establishment of the Federal stockpile, this should be assured.

The staff should complete the assessment of the PRM of Peter Crane and prepare and publish in the Federal Register a notice regarding the disposition of the PRM. This should include detailed review, evaluation and resolution of the comments and a rationale for the final disposition.

KCR 6/25/97