

## Shelter-in-Place Planning Guidance for an Incident at a Nuclear Generating Plant

“**Shelter in place**” means to take shelter or refuge at your current location (e.g. house, business, public building) from potential hazards or exposure to radiation.

Sheltering is a temporary protective action that can be implemented immediately. It provides equal or greater protection than evacuation for incidents depending upon the type of release, shelter available, duration of the plume phase and weather conditions.

### Decision to Shelter

When the utility declares an emergency, factors such as severe weather or a hostile action against the plant may present more of a danger to the public if an evacuation order was issued. The Planning and Assessment Center (PAC) may determine the best course of action to protect the public is to have people remain in their homes, businesses, or schools until it is safe to evacuate the area. The PAC recommendations will be discussed with the Risk Counties, State Incident Manager (SIM) and Governor’s Authorized Representative (GAR) to get concurrence for the protective actions. If the incident is at Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, the SEOC will coordinate with the State of Wisconsin and Pierce County WI.

### Sirens and Emergency Alert System Message

When a Protective Action Decision is approved, the State will coordinate the sounding of the sirens and the Emergency Alert System message with the affected Risk Counties. The EAS message is sent to the public by radio, television, Integrated Public Alert & Warning System [IPAWS] followed by Special News

bulletins with more specific information on what to do while sheltering-in-place.

Messaging to the public will be important especially during an active plume. It is important for the public to limit exposure during sheltering until the time is right to evacuate.

Messaging may include:

- If you must go outdoors, limit time to one hour or less and cover your nose and mouth with a mask.
- When returning indoors, remove clothing and place in a plastic bag and take a shower to remove any potential contamination.
- Prepare items for possible evacuation of you and your pet(s).
- Ensure essential supplies are available (e.g. food, water, medications, personal hygiene items, first aid kit, flashlight, portable radio, extra batteries).
- During a general emergency, administer potassium iodide (KI) when directed and if available.

### People with Special Needs

Local emergency management officials should account for and accommodate people with special needs. This includes the elderly, physically challenged, hearing impaired, blind, etc. How will people with special needs request assistance and how will you assist them?

### School Planning

Children attending school will be sheltered in place and cared for through their emergency preparedness procedures.