



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Incident:	Information on Radioactivity from Japanese Nuclear Reactors
Principal Investigator:	Poki Stewart Namkung, M.D., M.P.H., Health Officer
Date:	March 17, 2011
Release :	#2

SITUATION

In a statement released this morning, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) stated that **there is no risk expected to California or its residents** as a result of the situation in Japan. Both agencies will continue to work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to actively monitor the situation.

INFORMATION

It is not recommended that residents take potassium iodide tablets as a precautionary measure. The tablets can be a danger to people with allergies to iodine, shellfish or who have thyroid problems. Taken inappropriately, the tablets can have serious side effects including abnormal heart rhythms, nausea, vomiting, and bleeding.

RESOURCES

- Residents may call the California Department of Public Health hotline with specific questions concerning this incident. The number is **916-341-3947**.
- Information on radiation is also available at www.cdc.gov
- For updated information on monitoring, response and relief efforts in California and Japan, please visit the CalEMA website at www.calema.ca.gov

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

