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HANFORD TO ACTIVATE EMERGENCY SIRENS THURSDAY

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will be activating emergency sirens for an emergency exercise at the DOE's Hanford Site on Thursday, June 19.

The sirens will be activated between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in Hanford's 300 Area, which is about one mile north of Richland. People near this area may hear the sirens sound, but no response is required. Public address announcements stating "this is an exercise message" will be made prior to and following the siren tone.

In an actual emergency, county officials would activate the Emergency Alert System to broadcast information to the public over local radio and television stations. Sirens located along the Columbia River would also be activated if it were necessary to warn people on the river.

Periodic emergency exercises and siren tests are conducted at Hanford facilities as part of the ongoing program to test emergency equipment and train workers on emergency response procedures.

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