

## **MEDIA ADVISORY** U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RICHLAND OPERATIONS OFFICE

MEDIA CONTACT: Andrea Harper, (509) 376-0626 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** June 15, 2004

## **300 AREA ACTIVATION EMERGENCY DRILL**

Emergency sirens will be activated in the 300 Area of the U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford Site between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 22, 2004, as part of an emergency drill. People near the 300 Area may hear the sirens activating for about one minute, but no response is required. Public address announcements stating "this is a drill message" will be made prior to and following the siren tone. The activation is necessary to conduct the annual test of 300 Area workers' response to emergency siren signals.

In an 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 that may be on the river.

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

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