Hanford Site to Activate Emergency Sirens Thursday, April 15th

RICHLAND, Wash. – Emergency sirens will be activated for an emergency drill on the U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford Site tomorrow, April 15, 2021.

The sirens will be activated tomorrow between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. in the 100 Area of the Hanford Site, near the Columbia River, east of Vernita Bridge, and approximately 27 miles north of Richland. People near the 100 Area may hear the sirens, but no response is required. Sirens will also be activated in the 200 Areas in the central portion of the Site, but these sirens are not generally heard off the Hanford Site.

Public address announcements that "this is a drill message" will be made before and following the siren tone. In the event of an actual emergency, county officials would activate the Emergency Alert System to broadcast information to the public via local radio and television stations. Sirens located along the Columbia River would also be activated if necessary to warn people on the Columbia River.

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