



# CSEPP

IT WORKS  
WITH YOU.

CHEMICAL STOCKPILE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

MORROW  
COUNTY  
EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

## NEWS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

August 12, 2005

### Sign Installation to Start Soon

*For more information about how to prepare for an emergency, check our website at [www.csepp.net](http://www.csepp.net).*

*You are also welcome to contact me, especially if you want to schedule a CSEPP presentation for your community group.*

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**Hermiston, OR** - J.L. Brandt Electric was awarded the bid to start work on Phase II of the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program's (CSEPP) Transportation Evacuation Infrastructure. "J.L. Brandt was awarded the contract after winning a competitive bid process. We are pleased they have won the contract based on their cooperation, skills and ability to complete projects on budget and schedule," says Casey Beard, Project Lead and Director of Morrow County Emergency Management. Phase II includes the installation of fixed variable message signs, mobile variable message signs, swing arm barricades, static signs, remote cameras and control equipment. Should the need ever arise, to evacuate people from the greater Hermiston area, this equipment will facilitate efficient and safe movement of people from the threat area. Funding for this project is being provided through the CSEP Program.

"It's important the public understands there is *no change* to what they would be advised to do in the event of a chemical emergency. People who are within ten miles of the Umatilla Chemical Depot would still be advised to Shelter in Place," stated Meg Capps, Director of Umatilla County Emergency Management. According to Beard, "This project gets us one step closer to a balanced emergency response plan in the event of a chemical emergency at the Umatilla Chemical Depot. These signs will direct people, who are traveling through the greater Hermiston area (and unable to Shelter in Place), away from the threat

area."

The Umatilla CSEPP Community Public Information Officers are preparing a public education plan to inform residents how the Transportation Evacuation Plan will work in the event of an emergency. "We are working on an all-hazards approach in our emergency planning efforts. This evacuation plan is another step towards making our region safer for its residents and visitors," says Maureen Roxbury, Morrow County Emergency Management's Public Information Officer.

"In the very near future, you should start seeing blue signs with the words 'Evac Route'. The variable message signs will appear as a large dark sign which will 'Light up' when a message is sent to it. The drop arm barricades are similar to what you would see at a railroad crossing and will be used in conjunction with variable message signs. This is all part of the project," stated Roxbury. The public is asked to "stay tuned" for more information on the evacuation plan and how it affects the overall CSEPP emergency plan and, ultimately, those who live and work in the cities of Boardman, Echo, Hermiston, Irrigon, Stanfield or Umatilla. This project is expected to be completed by February 1, 2006.

For more information on this project, please contact Maureen Roxbury at 541.256.0118 or Casey Beard at 541.256.0117.

People who would like to schedule a speaker or have questions about how to develop a family or business emergency plan, should contact their county CSEPP office. In Umatilla County call (877) 367-2737. In Morrow County call (541) 922-5262.

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