



CHEMICAL STOCKPILE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

NEWS RELEASE

--For immediate release--

July 22, 2005

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Monthly CSEPP siren test, Tuesday, July 26

Pendleton, Ore. -- The monthly test of the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) siren system in Oregon is scheduled for noon on Tuesday, July 26. The test coincides with tests of CSEPP sirens on the Umatilla Chemical Depot and in Benton County, Washington. All 76* of the CSEPP sirens will use the Westminster chimes during the test.

Highway message reader boards along I-82 and I-84 will also be tested Tuesday. Motorists will see a reminder of the noon siren test displayed.

The sirens and highway reader boards are two of five public warning systems that would be activated by emergency management officials in the event of a chemical emergency at the Umatilla Chemical Depot. The sirens, highway message reader boards and highway advisory radio would alert people who are outdoors. Tone Alert Radios and the Emergency Alert System would alert people indoors. For more information on public warning systems surrounding the Umatilla Chemical Depot, visit www.csepp.net. Click on the "How would I be warned" icon.

For more information on Oregon's CSEPP siren system, call the Oregon Emergency Management office in Pendleton at (541) 966-9640.

For information on how to prepare for chemical emergency or to schedule a presentation contact Umatilla County Emergency Management toll free at (877) 367-2737, Morrow County Emergency Management at (541) 922-5262 or visit www.csepp.net.

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* The addition of six new sirens has increased the total number of CSEPP sirens to 76. Seven sirens are located on the Umatilla Chemical Depot, 49 are located in Oregon communities surrounding the Depot, and 20 along the Columbia river in Southern Benton County, Washington.

The new sirens were installed and operational as of May 27, 2005. Their locations are as follows:

- Stanfield area, near Pilot truck stop
- Hermiston, Umatilla County Fair grounds, SW corner
- Hermiston area, Fire Station # 3 on Westland Road
- Hermiston area, Bridge Road
- Hwy 730 just west of the City of Umatilla
- Irrigon, Wyoming Avenue near the schools