



CHEMICAL STOCKPILE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

OREGON  
EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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***For immediate release***

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### SEPTEMBER CSEPP Siren Test CANCELLED

(Pendleton, Ore.) – The monthly test of the CSEPP siren system in Oregon, scheduled for Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> was cancelled at the last minute due to unresolved operational issues. The siren test was to occur at noon; however, work on the siren activation equipment was not complete by the noon deadline as hoped. Therefore, the Oregon sirens were not able to be tested. Normally, the test coincides with tests of CSEPP sirens on the Umatilla Chemical Depot and in Benton County, Washington. To alleviate confusion, Washington State did not test their sirens in Plymouth and Paterson which can be heard directly across the river in Umatilla, Irrigon and Boardman, Oregon.

Highway message reader boards along I-82 and I-84 were not tested this month either. All systems will be back on schedule for testing on October 31, 2006.

Even though the sirens weren't able to be activated today, there are redundant systems in place, should an actual event occur, stated Maureen Roxbury, Public Information Officer for Morrow County Emergency Management. 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 Oregon's CSEPP siren system, call the Oregon Emergency Management office in Pendleton at (541) 966-9640.

To receive an information packet on how to prepare for chemical emergencies or to schedule a presentation in Umatilla County contact CSEPP at (877) 367-2737 or in Morrow County contact CSEPP at (541) 922-5262.

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