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Additional Siren Tests Planned for December, January

RICHLAND, Wash. – Energy Northwest and emergency response officials from Benton and Franklin Counties will conduct tests of individual alert sirens throughout December and January to test recent system upgrades and perform periodic inspections.

Maintenance testing will include sirens along the Columbia and Yakima Rivers and will be heard between the Vernita Bridge and Leslie Groves Park in north Richland, and at the Horn Rapids Off-Road Vehicle Park, firing range on Horn Road, Columbia Generating Station and adjoining areas. The testing will also include the sirens located near the Horn Rapids housing development.

This planned maintenance activity will be performed on individual sirens, one at a time, through January during daylight hours. No public response is required during these tests. Each siren may be tested multiple times, and each test will be preceded and followed by a voice announcement confirming the siren activation is part of a test. Energy Northwest representatives will be located near each siren to confirm proper operation. The siren system will remain in service throughout the testing period.

In an emergency, county officials would activate the Emergency Alert System and broadcast information to the public over local radio and television stations. The siren system would also be activated if it were necessary.

About Energy Northwest

Energy Northwest develops, owns and operates a diverse mix of electricity generating resources, including hydro, solar and wind projects – and the Northwest's only nuclear power plant. These projects provide enough reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible energy to power more than a million homes each year, and that carbon-free electricity is provided at the cost of generation. As a Washington state, not-for-profit joint operating agency, Energy Northwest comprises 28 public power member utilities from across the state serving more than 1.5 million ratepayers. The agency continually explores new generation projects to meet its members' needs.

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