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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Aug. 18, 2011 John Dobken, Public Affairs, 509-377-8369 Angela Smith, Public Affairs, 509-377-4154

Siren Test Planned for Monday

RICHLAND, Wash. – Energy Northwest and emergency response officials from Benton and Franklin Counties will conduct testing of an alert siren on Monday in north Richland (350 Hills St.), between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Energy Northwest personnel located at the siren will run through a series of siren tests which may be a up to one minute in duration. At least 10 siren activations are expected, but more may be required.

No public response is required during these tests. Each siren 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 the 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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