

Press Releases

02-08-11 Orange to participate in Indian Point Siren Test set for February 16

Siren Test requires no action on the part of the public

Orange County Commissioner of Emergency Services Walter C. Koury and Orange County Deputy Commissioner, Division of Emergency Management, Seamus K. Leary advise residents that a full-volume test of the Indian Point Energy Center siren system will be conducted between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 throughout the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) around Indian Point, including the sirens in Orange County.

During this full-system activation test, sirens will sound simultaneously for four minutes. The sirens will sound at full-volume for the entire duration of the test. No action on the part of the public is necessary or required for this drill.

If the sirens were sounded during an **actual** emergency, residents would listen to an Emergency Alert System (EAS) radio or television station for information and instructions about any action to be taken. Sounding the sirens is a signal for residents to listen to EAS broadcasts for important information. It is NOT a signal to evacuate.

"The sirens are tested periodically throughout the year to ensure that they work in the event of an emergency," said Deputy Commissioner Leary. "We announce siren alerting tests in advance through local news media."

The Indian Point Energy Center is a nuclear powered electric generating facility, located in Buchanan, N.Y. The plant is on the east bank of the Hudson River in Westchester County, close to portions of Rockland, Putnam, and Orange Counties.

For more information, including a list of EAS stations, please refer to the Orange County Indian Point Emergency Guide Are You Ready? or visit Orange County's Department of Emergency Management at www.orangecountygov.com/dem.