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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Chief Administrative Officer  
Report: #2024-INFO-63  
Date: October 8, 2024

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**Subject:**

Durham Region to test the nuclear public alerting system on October 29, 2024 and October 30, 2024.

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information.

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 To advise Council of the upcoming test to Durham Region's nuclear public alerting system.

**2. Background**

2.1 As a designated municipality under the Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan (PNERP, 2017), Durham Region to test the nuclear public alerting system as part of its regular maintenance program and to raise public awareness.

2.2 Durham Region's nuclear public alerting system is tested annually.

2.3 Durham Region's test will take place over two days:

- a. On Tuesday, October 29, 2024, landline phones in the Durham Region within ten kilometres of the Darlington and Pickering Nuclear Generating Stations will receive an automated phone message. The message will advise that it is a test and will provide notice that the sirens will be tested the following day within three kilometres of the Darlington and Pickering Nuclear Generating Stations. The message will include where to locate more information about the tests and emergency preparedness.
- b. On Wednesday, October 30, 2024, thirty-four sirens located within three kilometers of the Darlington and Pickering Nuclear Generating Stations will be sounded for approximately one minute.

- 2.4 Messages will be posted to the Region's social media accounts confirming when the tests have commenced and when they have been completed.
- 2.5 To increase public awareness, Durham Region has developed a comprehensive communications plan to let residents, businesses and other community stakeholders know about the test. The communications campaign will include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - a. Social media
  - b. Mobile signs
  - c. Advertisements for radio, print and online newspapers.
  - d. Our partners, the Local Area Municipalities, Toronto Office of Emergency Management and Ontario Power Generation, will help share our messages
  - e. Collaboration with Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce to help notify businesses in Durham Region.

### **3. Previous Reports and Decisions**

- 3.1 In 2023, Council was provided with the following information related to the nuclear public alerting system test:
  - a. Council Information Report, May 26, 2023 - Report #2023-INFO-44

### **4. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

- 4.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
  - a. Enhance community safety and well-being

### **5. Conclusion**

- 5.1 The next test of the nuclear public alerting system is scheduled for the spring of 2024.

Prepared by: Mary La Chapelle, Deputy Director, Emergency Management, at 905-668-4113 extension 6261

Approved by: Jessica Eng, Director, Emergency Management at 905-668-4113 extension 6262

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed by

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**Elaine Baxter-Trahair**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**