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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Chief Administrative Officer
Report: #2025-INFO-36
Date: May 16, 2025

Subject:

Durham Region to test the nuclear public alerting system on June 3 and June 4, 2025.

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To advise Council of the upcoming test of 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 will 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 To increase public awareness, Durham Region will implement a communications campaign that includes social media, mobile signs, and advertisements for radio, print, and online newspapers.
- 2.4 Durham Region's test will take place over two days:
- a. On Tuesday, June 3, 2025, 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 provide notice that the sirens will be tested the following day within a three-kilometre radius of the Darlington and Pickering Nuclear Generating

Stations. The message will include information on where to find more details about the tests and emergency preparedness.

- b. On Wednesday, June 4, 2025, thirty-four sirens located within three kilometres of the Darlington and Pickering Nuclear Generating Stations will be sounded for approximately one minute.
- 2.5 Messages will be posted to the Region's social media accounts to confirm when the tests have commenced and when they have been completed.
- 2.6 To increase public awareness, Durham Region has developed a comprehensive communications plan to inform residents, businesses, and other community stakeholders 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 Emergency Management and Ontario Power Generation
 - e. Collaboration with the Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce to help notify businesses in Durham Region

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 In 2024, Council was provided with the following information related to the nuclear public alerting system test:
- a. Council Information Report, October 8, 2024 - Report #2024-INFO-63

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 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed

Elaine Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer