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FOR IMMEDIATE

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Pacific Power to test sirens recently installed at Cougar and Beaver Bay campgrounds

COUGAR, Wash.—Pacific Power will test safety sirens at Cougar and Beaver Bay campgrounds during the week of Apr. 6 to 10. The tests will only last a few minutes.

The purpose of the newly-installed sirens is to warn anyone in the recreation areas in the unlikely case of sudden flooding. Although nearby residents may hear the sirens, the sirens are not meant to alert residents to any impending flooding. Letters have gone out to local residents to explain the issue so that no undo alarm is raised.

“This is something we have done in coordination with the Cowlitz County Department of Emergency Management, which is in charge of overall emergency preparedness for the area,” said Sheila Holden, regional community manager. “This is simply part of an ongoing effort by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and Pacific Power to ensure a warning system is available to anyone who could conceivably be at risk if there were a major, unplanned water release. Similar installations are underway at other hydro projects where recreational or residential areas are close to the foot of a dam.”

Pacific Power wants to make sure everyone is aware that there are sirens in these areas and that should you hear them, the warnings are only directed to people in the parks. Signs in the parks are in place to tell visitors what to do if they hear the sirens.

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