

Sirens

Fact Sheet

Sirens are strategically located in the emergency planning zone (EPZ) communities to cover the approximate 10-mile radius of Millstone Station. These communities are East Lyme, Groton City, Groton Town, Ledyard, Lyme, Montville, New London, Waterford and Fishers Island, NY. The sirens have been installed to alert the public to a nuclear power emergency, natural disaster, or other major emergency. Each community's officials, as necessary, activate the sirens.

Sirens alert the public to tune to their local emergency alert system (EAS) radio or television stations for emergency information or instructions to prepare the public in the event protective actions must be taken.

Sirens are maintained and routinely tested by Millstone and the local communities. Many communities routinely test their sirens and some use them as part of their fire warning systems.

Sirens can emit several different tones, each serving a different emergency function:

- **A Steady tone for 3 minutes (that may be repeated) signals a natural or commercial disaster such as severe weather, chemical spills, floods, or a nuclear power plant emergency.**

Some communities may use sirens for other purposes such as:

- A long wavering tone signals enemy attack.
- A short wavering tone signals a fire.
- A public address loud speaker can transmit announcements over a limited distance from the community's emergency operations center.

In the event a siren fails, each community has the ability to notify those individuals through route alerting. Route alerting is when a public safety vehicle is dispatched to the area and provides the warning information through their public address system. The public safety vehicle would be immediately dispatched to the affected area upon notification that the siren has failed.