

# Nuclear Power Plant Warning (NUW)

## Nuclear Power Plant Warning (NUW)

A warning of an event at a nuclear power plant classified as a Site Area Emergency or General Emergency by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

- **Site Area Emergency** - Events are in progress or have occurred which involve actual or likely major failures of plant functions needed for protection of the public or hostile action that results in intentional damage or malicious acts; 1) toward site personnel or equipment that could lead to the likely failure of or; 2) that prevent effective access to, equipment needed for the protection of the public. Any releases are not expected to result in exposure levels which exceed EPA PAG exposure levels beyond the site boundary.

Purpose: The purpose of the Site Area Emergency declaration is to assure that emergency response centers are staffed, to assure that monitoring teams are dispatched, to assure that personnel required for evacuation of near-site areas are at duty stations if the situation becomes more serious, to provide consultation with offsite authorities, and to provide updates to the public through government authorities.

- **General Emergency** - Events are in progress or have occurred which involve actual or imminent substantial core degradation or melting with potential for loss of containment integrity or hostile action that results in an actual loss of physical control of the facility. Releases can be reasonably expected to exceed EPA PAG exposure levels offsite for more than the immediate site area.

Purpose: The purpose of the General Emergency declaration is to initiate predetermined protective actions for the public, to provide continuous assessment of information from the licensee and offsite organizational measurements, to initiate additional measures as indicated by actual or potential releases, to provide consultation with offsite authorities, and to provide updates for the public through government authorities.

<http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/emerg-preparedness/about-emerg-preparedness/emerg-classification.html>

## Nuclear Power Plant Warning (NUW)

### Emergency Alert System Elements

<b>Originator Code (ORG):</b>	CIV	Civil Authority
<b>Event Code (EEE):</b>	NUW	Nuclear Power Plant Warning
<b>Location Codes (PSSCCC):</b>	PSSCCC	Locations included in alert area
<b>Duration (HHMM):</b>	0300	3 Hours

### Common Alerting Protocol Elements

**Category:** CBRNE  
**Event:** Nuclear Power Plant Warning  
**Response Type:** Monitor

**Urgency:**     Immediate     Expected     Future     Past     Unknown  
**Severity:**     Extreme     Severe     Moderate     Minor     Unknown  
**Certainty:**     Observed     Likely     Possible     Unlikely     Unknown

### Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):

Description of the hazard	Nuclear emergency declared at <i>[Nuclear Plant Name]</i> . No action now. Monitor news.
Location of the emergency	
Recommended action (urgency)	
Expected expiration if known	

### Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):

Recommended action (urgency)	No action necessary. Monitor news due to nuclear Site Area Emergency declared at the <i>[Nuclear Plant Name]</i>
Description of hazard	
Location of emergency	
Expected expiration if known	

### Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):

Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location.	The <i>[Nuclear Power Plant Name]</i> in <i>[City/State]</i> has declared a Site Area Emergency. A Site Area Emergency is a serious emergency, which is expected to be limited to the plant site.
Why do people need to act?	At <i>[Incident Time] [Day]</i> , <i>[Describe incident in layman's terms]</i> . The plant's emergency response plans are being followed, and appropriate local, county, state and federal officials have been notified.
Where is the emergency taking place?	The <i>[Nuclear Power Plant Name]</i> is located <i>[Describe location]</i> . People within approximately 10 miles of the plant include <i>[Describe location by reference to obvious geographic features, such as roads and rivers, rather than with abstract descriptions such as a one-mile radius of some intersection. The preferred method of describing the area should use compass directions and neighborhood and landmark names where appropriate.]</i>
	The Site Area Emergency is expected to be limited to the plant site.

## Nuclear Power Plant Warning (NUW)

**Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

What should people do?	If you are within 10-miles of the [Nuclear Power Plant Name], you should monitor your local Emergency Alert System stations. County and state officials will keep you informed if any protective actions become necessary through local E-A-S stations and news media.
When do people need to act? (next update, expiration)	The Site Area Emergency remains in effect until further notice. This message will be updated in 3-hours, or sooner if needed.
Closing.	For more information, check <a href="http://www.[Official Web Site].gov">www.[Official Web Site].gov</a> , or tune to local news media. Please do not call [9 1 1], except to report a serious emergency.

SAMPLE

## Nuclear Power Plant Warning (NUW)

### Emergency Alert System Elements

<b>Originator Code (ORG):</b>	CIV	Civil Authority
<b>Event Code (EEE):</b>	NUW	Nuclear Power Plant Warning
<b>Location Codes (PSSCCC):</b>	PSSCCC	Locations included in alert area
<b>Duration (HHMM):</b>	0300	3 Hours

### Common Alerting Protocol Elements

**Category:** CBRNE  
**Event:** Nuclear Power Plant Warning  
**Response Type:** Prepare

**Urgency:**    Immediate    Expected    Future    Past    Unknown  
**Severity:**    Extreme    Severe    Moderate    Minor    Unknown  
**Certainty:**    Observed    Likely    Possible    Unlikely    Unknown

### Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):

Description of the hazard Location of the emergency Recommended action (urgency) Expected expiration if known	Nuclear emergency declared at <i>[Nuclear Plant Name]</i> . 10-mile risk. Prepare.
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### Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):

Recommended action (urgency) Description of hazard Location of emergency Expected expiration if known	Prepare to act. Monitor news due to nuclear General Emergency declared within 10-miles of the <i>[Nuclear Plant Name]</i>
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### Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):

Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location.	The <i>[Nuclear Power Plant Name]</i> in <i>[City/State]</i> has declared a General Emergency. A General Emergency is the most serious level of nuclear power plant emergencies, and may impact an area up to 10-miles around the plant.
Why do people need to act?	At <i>[Incident Time] [Day]</i> , <i>[Describe incident in layman's terms]</i> . The plant's emergency response plans are being followed, and appropriate local, county, state and federal officials have been notified.
Where is the emergency taking place?	The <i>[Nuclear Power Plant Name]</i> is located <i>[Describe location]</i> . People within approximately 10 miles of the plant include <i>[Describe location by reference to obvious geographic features, such as roads and rivers, rather than with abstract descriptions such as a one-mile radius of some intersection. The preferred method of describing the area should use compass directions and neighborhood and landmark names where appropriate.]</i>

## Nuclear Power Plant Warning (NUW)

**Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

What should people do?	If you are within 10-miles of the [Nuclear Power Plant Name], you should monitor your local Emergency Alert System stations. County and state officials will keep you informed if any protective actions become necessary through local E-A-S stations and news media.
When do people need to act? (next update, expiration)	The General Emergency remains in effect until further notice. This message will be updated in 3-hours, or sooner if needed.
Closing.	For more information, check <a href="http://www.[Official Web Site].gov">www.[Official Web Site].gov</a> , or tune to local news media. Please do not call [9 1 1], except to report a serious emergency.

SAMPLE

## Nuclear Power Plant Warning (NUW)

### Emergency Alert System Elements

<b>Originator Code (ORG):</b>	CIV	Civil Authority
<b>Event Code (EEE):</b>	NUW	Nuclear Power Plant Warning
<b>Location Codes (PSSCCC):</b>	024017, 051059, 051153, 073535, 073536	Charles County, MD, Fairfax County, VA, Prince William County, VA, and Potomac River.
<b>Duration (HHMM):</b>	0300	3 Hours

### Common Alerting Protocol Elements

**Category:** CBRNE  
**Event:** Nuclear Power Plant Warning  
**Response Type:** Evacuate

**Urgency:**  Immediate     Expected     Future     Past     Unknown  
**Severity:**  Extreme     Severe     Moderate     Minor     Unknown  
**Certainty:**  Observed     Likely     Possible     Unlikely     Unknown

### Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Text (90 characters or less including spaces):

Description of the hazard	[Test] Nuclear accident
Location of the emergency	at Indian Head Power Plant.
Recommended action (urgency)	Evacuate 10-miles from Indian Head MD Now!
Expected expiration if known	

### Computer Headline (140/160 characters or less including spaces):

Recommended action (urgency)	[Test] Immediate evacuation ordered
Description of hazard	due to accident at Indian Head Nuclear Plant
Location of emergency	affecting Charles, MD, Fairfax, VA and Pr. William, VA
Expected expiration if known	

### Description (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):

Lead sentence briefly stating the official source, hazard and location.	[This is a test.] Maryland and Virginia state emergency officials have ordered an immediate evacuation because of a nuclear accident at the Indian Head Nuclear Power Plant in Maryland.
Why do people need to act?	At 10:05 a.m. today, a large quantity of radioactive material was released into the atmosphere requiring immediate evacuation at least 10-miles from Indian Head Maryland.
Where is the emergency taking place?	In Maryland, the evacuation zone includes western Charles county, including the localities of Indian Head and Marbury.  In Virginia, the evacuation zone includes southeastern Fairfax county, including the localities of Mason Neck and Newington; and eastern Prince William county, including the localities of Dale City and Quantico.

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**Instruction (Instruction + Description should be 1500 characters or less and under 200 words):**

<p>What should people do?</p>          <p>When do people need to act? (next update, expiration)</p>  <p>Closing.</p>	<p>For your safety, if you are in the evacuation zones, you must leave now!</p> <p>Take only essential items. Do not delay. Bring prescription medications and Identification. Lock your windows and doors as you leave. Bring pets in a carrier or on a leash. Please observe normal traffic laws and obey emergency officials directing traffic.</p> <p>Do not pick up children from schools in the evacuation zone. Schoolchildren are being transported to shelters and parents will be notified via media where to meet their children.</p> <p>Evacuate the area immediately! Stay away until further notice. This message will be updated in 3-hours, or sooner if needed.</p> <p>For more information, check <a href="#">www.[Official Web Site].gov</a>, or tune to local news media. Please do not call [9 1 1], except to report a serious emergency.</p> <p>[This concludes this test.]</p>
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**Note:** This is based on a FEMA exercise, and not an actual nuclear power plant. There is no nuclear power plant in Indian Head, Maryland.