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Region III Office of Public Affairs  
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AERIAL RADIATION MEASUREMENTS PLANNED  
FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN WISCONSIN AND MINNESOTA

A blue-and-white helicopter, flying at low altitudes, will conduct routine background radiation surveys for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission near four nuclear power stations in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

The surveys are part of an ongoing NRC program to monitor radiation levels around facilities producing, using, or storing radioactive materials. The surveys are performed by Bechtel Nevada, a Department of Energy contractor in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The helicopter surveys will be performed in the area of the Kewaunee and Point Beach Nuclear Power Stations north of Two Rivers, Wisconsin; at the Prairie Island Nuclear Power Station near Red Wing, Minnesota; and at the Monticello Nuclear Power Station in Monticello, Minnesota.

The tentative schedule for the Wisconsin survey is to begin setup activities on Friday (October 18) with the survey to be performed over the next several days.

The Prairie Island survey will begin about October 26 with the Monticello survey to follow, beginning about October 29.

The actual survey schedules will depend on weather conditions.

The surveys are performed at several commercial nuclear power stations each year. They include the plant site itself and about a 10-square mile area around the plant.

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