



**Marty Kelly**  
Goodhue County Sheriff

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To: Goodhue County Board of Commissioners  
County Administrator Scott Arneson

From: Sheriff Marty Kelly  
Chief Jonathan Huneke  
Captain Chad Steffen

Re: 2024 FEMA Exercise – Exceptional Performance

Date: July 3, 2024

On June 25, 2024, our Emergency Management Team participated in a full-scale, FEMA-evaluated exercise. This exercise is mandated by the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program to ensure that all involved governmental partners can effectively respond to emergencies related to Xcel Energy's Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant.

The exercise involved two states, three counties, and a total of 425 participants, with 58 from Goodhue County alone. FEMA deployed 35 evaluators across several locations during the exercise, and all demonstrated that appropriate measures were taken in the given scenario. Goodhue County successfully met all ten targets set, showcasing the seamless and flexible nature of our operations.

Achieving this level of performance requires ongoing daily work to improve our preparedness. We would like to recognize EM Director Earl Merchlewitz and Deputy EM Director Mallore McCarty for their exceptional preparation and performance both before and during this exercise. While a final report is expected around September 23, 2024, based on FEMA's initial comments, these two individuals are deserving of recognition.

Please join us in formally recognizing EM Director Merchlewitz and Deputy Director McCarty for their continued dedication and outstanding performance.

Marty Kelly  
Goodhue County Sheriff

Jonathan Huneke  
Chief Deputy

Chad Steffen  
Emergency Services Captain

## OFFICE OF THE GOODHUE COUNTY SHERIFF

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