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# PRESS RELEASE

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## **ALLEN COUNTY COMPLETES 10-YEAR PROJECT TO ESTABLISH OUTDOOR WARNING SYSTEM**

(LIMA, OH) – Local government and community leaders gathered today at the Limaland Motorsports Park to officially mark the successful completion of a 10-year program underway in Allen County to establish a comprehensive outdoor community warning siren system.

The effort that began in 1994 with the donation of five sirens to Allen County from BP Lima Chemicals was capped off this morning when Ohio Congressman Michael Oxley activated a test of the newest siren located at the Limaland Motorsports Park. There are now forty sirens in the Allen County system.

“This program is reality today because of partnerships,” explained Russ Decker, director of the Allen County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management. “Partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector. Forty percent of all siren locations in our system are on private property like here at the race track, seventy percent of our funding has come from the federal government including 100% federal funding for this final 21 siren phase of the project.”

Participating in today’s event were Congressman Michael Oxley (OH-4<sup>th</sup>), Allen County Commissioners, American Township Trustees, Elida Fire Department, and Dr. Jeff Jarvis, president of the University of Northwestern Ohio (owner of the Limaland Motorsports Park).

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