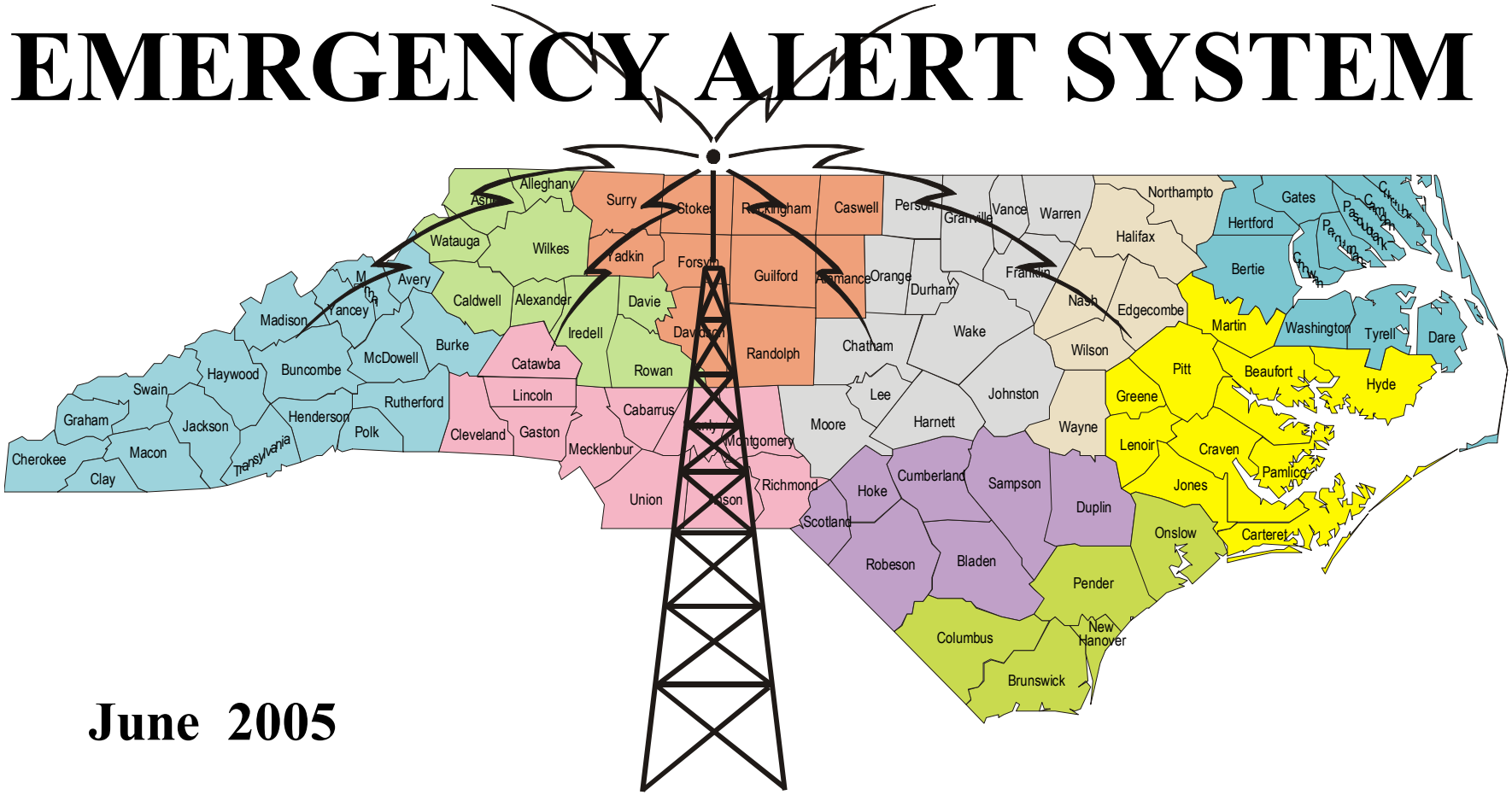
NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM



June 2005

STATE PLAN

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I. INTENT AND PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

This plan is the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandated document outlining the organization and implementation of the State of North Carolina Emergency Alert System (EAS). This plan is the guideline for North Carolina broadcasters, cable television operators, state and local entities authorized to use the EAS (as listed in Appendix A) to determine:

- Mandated and optional monitoring assignments;
- Codes to be used in the EAS Header sequence;
- Schedule of the Required Monthly Tests (RMTs) which must be relayed by all broadcasters and cable operators;
- Any other elements of the EAS which are unique to this state.

II. AUTHORITY

Authority lies within Title 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i) and (o), 303(r), 524(g) and 606; and 47 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR,) Part 11, Federal Communications Commission Rules and Regulations, Emergency Alert System as it pertains to day-to-day emergency operations.

All operations of the Emergency Alert System are in accordance with Subpart G of Part 73, FCC Regulations (Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations; the Federal Communications Commission's "EAS Checklist"). This plan is consistent with the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and is considered to be a supplement to the National Emergency Alert System Plan.

This Plan is an adjunct to the FCC EAS Rules, and is not meant to be a summary, in whole or in part, of those rules. Consult FCC Rules Part 11 for complete rules regarding the Emergency Alert System. All references located within brackets in the following text refer to the aforementioned FCC Rules Part 11.

III. THE NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM: PARTICIPATION AND PRIORITIES

A. *National Emergency Alert System Participation*

The EAS is composed of broadcast networks; cable networks and program suppliers; AM, FM, Low Power FM (LPFM) and TV broadcast stations; Class A television (CA) stations; Low Power TV (LPTV) stations; cable systems; wireless cable systems which may consist of Multipoint Distribution Service (MDS), Multichannel Multipoint Distribution Service (MMDS), or Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS) stations; and other entities and industries operating on an organized basis during emergencies at the National, State and local levels. It requires that at a minimum all participants use a common EAS protocol, as defined in § 11.31, to send and receive emergency alerts.

As a member of the EAS, participants are required to have a working encoder/decoder (en/dec) box with the following exceptions: (a) cable and wireless cable systems serving fewer than 5,000 subscribers are required to install an FCC-certified *decoder* only, and;

(b) broadcast satellite and repeater station, which rebroadcast 100% of the programming of their hub station, will be exempt from the requirement to install EAS equipment.

All broadcasters and subject cable operators are required to participate in the National-level EAS. Participating National (PN) stations and cable operators will carry the Presidential message; Non-Participating National (NN) stations will make an announcement and sign off. All broadcasters and subject cable operators must transmit a Required Weekly Test (RWT). In addition, once a month every broadcaster must re-transmit a Required Monthly Test (RMT) within 60 minutes [FCC 11.61 (v)] of their EAS decoder receiving it. These actions are required of all broadcasters and subject cable operators, regardless of their "PN" or "NN" EAS status.

B. *State/Local Emergency Alert System Participation*

Participation in the State and/or Local Area EAS is voluntary for all broadcasters and cable operators. However, broadcast stations and cable operators electing to participate in the State and/or Local Area EAS must follow the procedures found in this Plan. Stations designated "NN" (Non-Participating National) may participate in the State and/or Local Area EAS without any prior FCC approval even though they elect not to carry National EAS Alerts.

All participating EAS stations are strongly urged to place their encoder/decoder boxes in "Automatic Relay" mode for incoming messages containing mandatory Local Event Codes listed in Appendix K and Table 9.

It should be noted that the Emergency Alert System should be used only in short duration life-or-death events.

C. *Conditions of Emergency Alert System Participation*

Participation in this Plan shall not be deemed to prohibit broadcast licensees from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Broadcast stations and cable systems transmitting EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. Management of each broadcast station and cable system may exercise discretion regarding the broadcast of emergency information and instructions to the general public. This authority is provided by FCC Rules and Regulations [11.54d].

D. *Emergency Alert System Priorities*

EAS Priorities as set forth in the FCC rules [11.44] are as listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Emergency Alert System Priorities

Priority Level	Priority
First	National Level EAS Messages
Second	Local Area EAS Messages
Third	State EAS Messages
Fourth	Messages from the National Information Center (NIC)

Messages from the National Information Center are follow-up messages sent after a national EAS activation.

IV. THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The responsibility for administering this plan rests with the members of the North Carolina State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC). The FCC appoints the SECC chairman and co-chairmen for radio, television, cable and utility interests. The chairmen and co-chairmen of the ten Local Area Emergency Communications Committees (LAECC) and other voluntary members appointed by the SECC Chairman are also members of the SECC. Refer to Appendix B for a listing of SECC and LAECC members.

V. ORGANIZATION AND CONCEPTS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

The statewide North Carolina EAS can be activated by a request from an authorized Federal, State, or local official to the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC Communication Officer will program relevant alert data into the EMnet transmitter. The encoded alert data will be sent simultaneously via satellite to the LP-1, LP-2 and SR-3 stations spread throughout the state. (See appendix C for placement of LP stations).

The NCEOC can also activate the EAS in a particular region or area by contacting only the LP stations in that area. These transmissions will be encoded to alert LPs serving designated counties.

The routing of the over-the-air, "daisy chain" relay network using SP-1 (WQDR-FM 94.7 mhz) and SP-2 (WDCG-FM 105.1 mhz) is charted in Appendix D. The monitoring assignments for each county are listed in Appendix E.

If, for any reason, the State EOC is unable to transmit a statewide alert message or a required monthly test, the EOC Communication Officer will contact the Raleigh office of the National

Weather Service (NWS) and request the transmission of that alert or RMT. If the State EOC is unable to transmit a local alert message, the EOC Communications Officer will contact the relevant NWS station and request the transmission of that alert message.

FCC rules stipulate that all broadcast station licensees and cable systems in North Carolina monitor two EAS sources (LP-1 and LP-2) in their EAS local area. In addition to the required monitoring assignments, stations are strongly encouraged to monitor their local area NWS station and may monitor NCEM via EMnet, or an adjacent area LP-1 or LP-2 station. For full participation in the North Carolina State EAS Plan, each radio and television station and cable system with city of license in the state should monitor their LP-1, LP-2 and local NWS station.

A. *Emergency Alert System Designations*

Every broadcast station and subject cable system will be assigned an EAS designation status, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. EAS Designation Definitions

EAS Designation	Full Title	Definition
NP	National Primary	A source of national EAS alerts
SP	State Primary	The State Primary station is WQDR-FM 94.7 MHZ in Raleigh. It is the Primary Entry Point and would receive and relay any national EAS alert.
LP	Local Primary	Broadcast stations which are primary sources of local area, national, and State EAS alerts. State LP stations are identified in Appendix C of this plan.
PN	Participating National	Broadcast stations and cable systems that monitor primary sources of EAS programming and directly feed emergency alerts to the public.
NN	Non-participating National	Broadcasters which have elected not to participate in the national level EAS. These stations must have specific authorization from the FCC to sign off the air during a national emergency.

B. *Delivery Plan*

The SECC is required by the FCC to develop an EAS message delivery plan that will provide a minimum of two sources for all levels of EAS alerts to each broadcast station and subject cable system. The primary delivery system to LP-1s and LP-2s is the EMnet, as shown in Appendix I. The alternate delivery system, with primary responsibility for weather alerts and local EAS messages (issued as a CEM), is the National Weather Service. NWR station locations and radio frequencies are listed in Appendix H. As a full participant in the NC EAS program, each broadcaster and cable system should monitor the local area LP-1 and LP-2 and the closest NWS office.

Monitoring assignments for all broadcast stations and subject cable systems in North Carolina are included in this plan. (See Appendix C for the NC LP Network, Appendix D for the EAS "Daisy Chain" Network, Appendix E for EAS County Monitoring assignments and Appendix G for NWS Alert Areas.)

C. *Development of Local Emergency Alert System Structure and Plans*

A basic EAS system would have at least one point of access for all authorized agencies within a local operational area. This point would consist of an EAS encoder/decoder and a communication link capable of sending EAS information to an LP station.

LP stations are strongly encouraged to place their encoders on auto-forward mode at all times. Automatic interrupt of programming and transmission of EAS messages are required when facilities are unattended. Automatic transmission must include a permanent record that contains at a minimum the following information: originator, event, location and valid time period of the message [FCC Rules 11.51].

D. *Origins of Emergency Alert System Information*

1. *National-Level System*

The President of the United States or other federal authorities may utilize the facilities of EAS in a national emergency. Notification of a national EAS alert comes in the form of an EMERGENCY ACTION NOTIFICATION (EAN) from the White House. This notification is distributed to the nation via one method:

- The network of PRIMARY ENTRY POINT (PEP) broadcast stations. The PEP station in the State of North Carolina is WQDR-FM (94.7) in Raleigh.

See Appendix F for a description of the National-level EAS system.

2. *State-Level System*

The primary statewide EAS Activation Point (EAS-AP) is the State Emergency Operation Center, 116 West Jones St., Raleigh, North Carolina. The Division of Emergency Management (NCEM) has primary responsibility for statewide activation of EAS through EMnet. In the event that the NCEOC is incapable of activating the statewide EAS, the National Weather Service is the back-up provider. A list of the entities authorized to request activation of the EAS system can be found in Appendix A. Procedures for activation are detailed in this document at: X. EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM ACTIVATION PROCEDURES "State Activation Procedures." The Statewide Activation network for EAS is depicted in Appendices C, D, and G.

3. *National Weather Service Distribution*

Seven National Weather Service (NWS) offices operate seventeen National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio (NWR) transmitter systems that broadcast weather information that impacts North Carolina counties. This information includes weather warnings and watches for adverse weather conditions. Broadcast stations and cable systems receive and re-broadcast both these weather-related advisories and other emergency information. Each NWS office is required to perform a weekly test of the NWR system.

The NWS is the backup provider of statewide EAS messages. Additionally, a State, area, county, or city emergency management official may directly contact the servicing NWS office and request issuance of a Civil Emergency Message (CEM) via the NWR system. See Appendix G for a map of each NWS office's area of responsibility and Appendix I for NWR station locations and their coverage areas. Additional details on NWR, such as transmission frequencies, can be found at the NWR website address: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr .

VI. AUTHENTICATION

A. ***National***

Per FCC public notice (http://www.fcc.gov/mmb/asd/decdoc/letter/1998--09--03--eas2.html) the authenticator code list is no longer distributed by the FCC, and is no longer required.

B. ***State***

One statewide authentication list will be used for all local and state activation. This list will be furnished by the Division of Emergency Management to all LP-1 and LP-2 stations, the seven National Weather Service offices with warning responsibilities in North Carolina, all local emergency management offices and others designated to request an activation.

C. ***Local***

A statewide authentication list will be provided to designated local authorities as stated in paragraph B above.

VII. EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM PROTOCOL

EAS activations (tests or alerts) will consist of up to four elements:

- A header code (mandatory);
- An attention signal (optional);
- An aural message (optional); and
- An end of message code (mandatory).

A. *Header Code*

All EAS activations will include a header code data burst. The header code will be sent three times, with a one-second pause after each transmission, to ensure proper reception by EAS decoders.

EAS header codes consist of the following elements sent in the sequence shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Header Code Sequence

Header Code Sequence	Header Code	Name of Code	Definition
First	Preamble	N/A	Clears the system. The preamble is automatically sent by the EAS encoder.
Second	ZCZC	Start Code	An identifier which indicates the start of the ASCII code. Automatically sent by the EAS encoder.
Third	ORG	Originator Code	The code describes the type of entity originating an EAS activation. See subsection 1 below.
Fourth	EEE	Event Code	This code describes the type of event that has occurred. See subsection 2 below.
Fifth	SSCCC	Location Code	This code identifies the states, counties, municipalities and unincorporated areas affected by the EAS alert. See subsection 3 below.
Sixth	TTTT	Duration Code	This code defines how long the alert is expected to be in effect. See subsection 4 below.
Seventh	JJJHHMM	Date and Time of Day Code	Date and time of day the EAS was activated. See subsection 5 below.
Eighth	LLLLLLLL	Encoder Identifier Code	This code identifies the specific entity originating the EAS alert. See subsection 6 below.

1. *Originator Code*

The user programs their originator code (ORG) into the EAS encoder at initial setup. The valid originator codes are given in Table 4 [11.31d]:

Table 4. EAS Originator Codes

Originator Code	Definition
EAN	Emergency Action Notification Network
PEP	Primary Entry Point System
WXR	National Weather Service
CIV	Civil Authorities
EAS	Broadcast Station or Cable System

2. *Event Code*

The Event Code (EEE) must be programmed into the encoder by the originator for each activation. The Event Codes listed in Appendix J (Table 8 and Table 9) have been approved by the FCC for EAS use in North Carolina [11.31e]. Only those codes approved by the FCC may be used. Any agency that desires to use a code not on the list of approved event codes must submit the proposed code to the SECC for approval. If the SECC agrees with the need for a new code the request will be sent to the FCC for approval by a consortium of the FCC, FEMA, and NWS officials. Once the code is approved it will be added to the "master list" of event codes. Eventually the FCC will update the Part 11 rules to include the new code.

3. *Location Code*

The location code (SSCCC) must be programmed by the alert originator each time an alert is issued.

EAS location codes are based on FIPS (Federal Information Processing System) codes [11.31c]. Each state has been assigned a number and each county in each state has been assigned a number. The combination of the state number and the county number gives each county in the entire country a unique identification number. The FIPS code for the State of North Carolina is 37. Table 5 gives some example EAS location codes for counties in North Carolina. FIPS codes for each North Carolina County are located in Appendix K. A map containing County FIPS codes can be found in Appendix L.

Table 5. Example Location Codes

County	Location Code
Alamance	37001
Cherokee	37039
Halifax	37083
Madison	37115
Northampton	37131
Yadkin	37197

4. Duration Code

The duration code (TTTT) must be assigned by the alert originator any time an alert is sent. Valid durations can be entered in 15 minute segments for time periods of less than one hour, and in 30 minute segments for time periods exceeding an hour. Example duration codes are shown in Table 6 below.

Table 6. Example Duration Codes

Duration Code	Duration
0015	Fifteen minutes
0030	Thirty minutes
0045	Forty-five minutes
0100	One hour
0230	Two hours thirty minutes

5. *Date and Time of Day Code*

The Date and Time of Day Code (JJJHHMM) is based on a Julian calendar and is sent automatically by the EAS encoder. The duration of the event is calculated as starting from this time. (Example: January 5, 2:15 p.m. would be stamped 0051415.)

6. *Encoder Identifier Code*

The Encoder Identifier Code (LLLLLLLL) identifies the broadcaster, cable operator, Weather Service office, civil authority or industrial plant that operated the encoder that transmitted or retransmitted the activation. The information is programmed into the encoder at initial setup and is automatically added to the EAS header by the encoder.

Table 7 lists the formats for the mandatory "L-Codes" for various organizations and agencies.

Table 7. Encoder Identifier Code Formats

Activation Entity	Identifier Code	Example
Broadcasters	Station call letters. For two stations give both stations' call letters in sequence (as shown in example). For three or more stations, the call letters of one station is sufficient.	Single Station: WXXX (FM) Two Stations: WXXXWYYY
Cable Television	Six-digit FCC Cable ID Number	123456
Weather Service Offices	Use the station call sign (PXXX) followed by /NWS	PXXX/NWS
Civil Authorities	L-Codes for civil authorities will be constructed using the initials of the civil agency.	North Carolina Division of Emergency Management: NCEM
Military Groups	As given in examples.	Army: USARMY Navy: USNAVY Air Force: AIRFORCE Marine Corps: USMC Coast Guard: USCG

B. *Attention Signal*

Following the header code, a two-tone attention signal may be used to alert listeners and viewers that an EAS activation has occurred and that an aural message will follow. The attention signal should be used if an aural message will be included as part of the alert. All NWS RWT and designated warnings will use the 1050HZ-tone alarm.

The two-tone attention signal must consist of the fundamental frequencies of 853 and 960 Hz transmitted simultaneously [11.31a2] and must be from 8 to 25 seconds in duration [11.31c]. When used, the attention signal must follow the EAS header and must precede an aural message. Use of the two-tone attention signal and an aural message will be determined by the originator of the alert; they are not required, but if one is used the other must accompany it. It is not required for state and local alerts [11.51b].

C. *Aural Message*

An EAS alert may also include an aural message. EAS decoders are required to have the capability to record and store at least two minutes of audio information [11.33a3i]. The originator may supply an aural message of up to, but not more than, ninety seconds in length. The aural message will be transmitted following the attention signal. Transmission of the aural message is not required for state and local alerts [11.51b].

D. *End of Message*

In addition, all EAS alerts will contain an end-of-message code burst to indicate the complete reception of the message [11.31c]. The end-of-message code burst is sent three times, as with the header code, to ensure proper reception by EAS decoders. The end of message character string is comprised of four ASCII "N" characters.

E. *Time-Duration and County-Location Codes to be used in Testing*

The TIME DURATION used in the EAS header code for all EAS tests shall be 120 MINUTES.

COUNTY LOCATION codes used in the EAS header code for EAS tests shall conform to these guidelines:

- SRN Stations: All tests shall use the Location Code for the entire state (37000).

- PN Stations, NN Stations, and Cable Operators: The RMT shall be re-transmitted unchanged, except for the "L-Code". Thus, RMTs will include all counties present in the original message. For the RWT performed every week by each PN and NN station, and each cable operator, the county-location code used shall be the county for the broadcaster or cable operator's service area. Other counties in the station's/system's service area may be added at management discretion.

VIII. REQUIRED EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM TESTS

All broadcasters, subject cable operators, and the National Weather Service are required to transmit Required Weekly Tests (RWT) and Required Monthly Tests (RMT) with the following exceptions:

- LPTV stations that do not originate local programming and TV translators are not required to have EAS equipment.

A. *Required Weekly Test*

1. *Transmission*

All broadcasters, subject cable operators, and the National Weather Service must initiate a required weekly test (RWT) once a week at random days and times except for the week of the RMT test. The NCEOC and SHP will simultaneously transmit an RWT to each LP-1 and LP-2 on a staggered schedule each Wednesday. There are no time-of-day restrictions. This is a 10.5-second test, consisting only of the EAS Header and End-of-Message Codes.

Broadcast stations are encouraged to vary the broadcast of the RWT in an effort to expose all station operators both full time and part time to the procedures of conducting an EAS test.

2. *Reception*

All broadcasters and subject cable operators receiving a RWT from one of their monitored sources must log receipt of this test. No further action is required.

Daytime only stations receiving an overnight RWT must log the test received in the appropriate manner the following morning.

B. ***Required Monthly Test***

1. *Transmission*

Required monthly tests (RMTs) may be initiated by the State of North Carolina Division of Emergency Management, the NWS, the NC State Highway Patrol (NCSHP) and any LP-1 or LP-2 according to the schedule distributed by the State EAS Coordinator. Upon receipt of the test message, broadcasters and cable operators should react as described in "3. Reception and Re-transmission" below. These tests shall always use the Event Code "RMT".

NWS or NCEM may conduct an annual statewide tornado drill during Severe Weather Awareness Week in late February or March. An RMT may be issued with the audio referring to the statewide tornado drill.

In months when a nuclear exercise is being conducted, the State EOC may conduct the RMT in conjunction with the nuclear plant exercise.

2. *RMT Scheduling*

A. TIME OF DAY

Per guidance contained in 11.61 of CFR, the North Carolina, SECC has determined the required monthly tests be as follows:

- Between local sunset and 8:30 am on even numbered months; and
- Between 8:30 am and local sunset on odd numbered months.

Exceptions may be made for RMTs conducted in conjunction with nuclear plant exercises or Severe Weather Awareness Week.

B. RECOMMENDED TIME CONSTRAINTS

After considering the programming needs of broadcast, TV and cable operations, the SECC, through the State EAS Coordinator, will publish a Required Monthly Test (RMT) schedule in the fall of the preceding year.

3. *Reception and Re-transmission*

All broadcast stations and subject cable systems should retransmit the RMT exactly as received and must re-transmit this test within 60 minutes of receiving it [11.61 (1.v)]. For daytime-only stations receiving a night time RMT, this test must be re-transmitted within 60 minutes of the station's sign-on. Transmission of the RMT takes the place of the Required Weekly Test (RWT). Times should be logged for both the receipt and re-transmission of the RMT. Broadcast and cable management should impress upon their staff that re-transmission of this test is mandatory. Failing to retransmit the RMT within 60 minutes of its reception is a violation of FCC regulations.

IX. STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM SCRIPTS AND FORMATS

A. *Required Weekly Test*

No script is used for the RWT. The entire test takes 10.5 seconds and should be formatted as follows:

- One-second pause;
- Send EAS header;
- One-second pause;
- 1050 hertz attention signal for 8 seconds (NWS only);
- NWS Script (NWS only);
- Send EAS end-of-message code;
- One-second pause; and
- Resume normal programming.

Though standard RWTs are not scripted, RWTs initiated by the National Weather Service (NWS) follow a NWS script.

B. *Required Monthly Tests*

Originators of the Required Monthly Tests shall use the following format. All other broadcasters and subject cable operators will receive the test in this format and must retransmit it within 60 minutes of receipt in the same format.

1. *RMT Format and Script*

- Send the EAS header code
  Use the "RMT" event code
  Use 120-minute duration
- One second pause;
- Send the two-tone attention signal for 8 seconds;
- Transmit the following test script:

  "**This is a test of the North Carolina Emergency Alert System. This is only a test. Broadcasters in cooperation with local, state and national authorities have developed this system to provide the public with important emergency information, should the need arise. This concludes the monthly test of the North Carolina Emergency Alert System."**

- One second pause; and
- Send EAS end-of-message code.

2. *Optional Test Introduction and Wrap-ups*

In addition to the required elements in the RMT format, broadcasters and cable systems may elect to add an optional introduction to the test and/or an optional test wrap-up. When a test is received, the station could run the optional introduction followed by a one-second pause, retransmit the RMT as outlined above, run the test wrap-up, and then return to regular programming.

The content of the introduction and wrap-up is entirely up to the broadcasters and subject cable operators.

An example of an optional test introduction is:

"This station, in cooperation with national, state, and local officials, participates in the Emergency Alert System. The following is an EAS test."

An example of an optional test wrap-up is:

"**For information regarding the Emergency Alert System, contact this station or your local emergency management organization**."

X. EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM ACTIVATION PROCEDURES

A. *National Activation Procedures*

All National level activations will be issued from the White House and will be transmitted to the NC Primary Entry Point, WQDR-FM in Raleigh, NC. The message will be relayed to the State Relay stations for retransmission throughout the NC EAS Network. All EAS receivers are factory-programmed to handle National Emergency Action Notification (EAN). EAS messages with the EAN event code must be transmitted immediately [11.52 (2)]. Automatic interrupt of programming is required when facilities are unattended [11.52 (1)]. A broadcast source that has elected to become a Non-participating National must remove its signal from the air during a National activation. All other stations must carry the activation message. For additional information concerning National alert activation procedures see Appendix F.

B. *State Activation Procedures*

At the direction of the Governor, the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, the Director of the Emergency Management Division, the EM Duty Officer, the State EAS coordinator or a designee, the EM Communication Officer will develop the appropriate EAS message and format it into the EAS encoder/decoder for distribution statewide. All LP-1 and LP-2 will be alerted simultaneously through the EMnet System, and the message will then be relayed throughout the NC EAS network (see appendices C, D, and E). Civil Authorities (CIV) will be the originator code for State level activation.

In the event of a Child Abduction Emergency (CAE)—also known as an AMBER Alert—the NC Center for Missing Persons may request that NCEOC issue an AMBER Alert (see D below). The NCCMP, through consultation with the NCEOC

Communications Officer, will determine whether the alert will be broadcast locally or statewide.

C. *Local Area Activation Procedures*

In the event that a State, area, county or city emergency management official deems it necessary to disseminate emergency information to the general public for a localized life-threatening event or incident, that official should directly contact:

a. the National Weather Service (NWS) office serving that area and request that NWS issue an EAS message over NOAA Weather Radio (NWR);
   or,
b. the County Emergency Management Coordinator who will contact the State EOC and request the issuance of an EAS message;
   or,
c. the local area LP-1 or LP-2 and request that an EAS alert (as a CEM) be issued.

The emergency management official should provide text information about the hazard and the appropriate response to the NWS office for immediate transmission. Local and County emergency management officials should contact their local NWS office to set up procedures to clarify and facilitate the process.

Alternatively, a local emergency management official may ask the County Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) or his designated representative to activate the EAS. The CEMC should fax text information concerning the hazard and the appropriate response to the State EOC for transmission through the EAS network.

In case of an event at a fixed nuclear facility, the CEMC will contact the State EOC by phone to inform them that a faxed message will follow. The SERT Leader or Division Duty Officer will validate the alert, and the message will be sent out under regular EAS protocols. The NWS will be notified in order that they might set off tone-alert radios.

D. *NC Child Abduction Emergency Activation Procedures*

The State Emergency Communications Committee has approved the use of the EAS to transmit Child Abduction Emergency (CAE) alerts. Commonly known as AMBER Alerts, these messages must originate from local law enforcement units and channeled through the NC Center for Missing Persons (NCCMP). If the NCCMP primary origination site, the State Highway Patrol State Warning Point (SWP) is unable to originate transmission, NCCMP will request assistance from NCEOC in transmitting an AMBER Alert. The NCCMP will provide pertinent information to personnel at the State EOC who will then activate the Emergency Alert System via EMnet. If the EOC is incapable of initiating the alert, the NWS will be notified and will issue the CAE.

The message may require statewide distribution and a three-hour duration unless the NCCMP designates a more specific broadcast area or a shorter or longer duration. Follow-up CAE messages may be issued via EAS when significant additional information becomes available. No termination of event notice will be issued via the EAS, but the NCEOC will post a message on the EMnet Message Manager of each NC EAS network radio station.

E. *Weather-Related Emergency Alert System Activation Procedures*

The vast majority of weather-related EAS alerts are originated by the National Weather Service via the NOAA Weather Radio. These alerts are also disseminated via the NOAA Weather Wire Service (NWWS) and the AP teletype network. An EAS weather alert received via one of these teletypes shall constitute valid authorization for a broadcaster or cable operator to originate an EAS weather alert warning if that is the level of alert that has been declared by the National Weather Service. Although it is preferable to utilize NOAA Weather Radio, a local emergency management official may directly contact a local broadcaster and request the transmission of an EAS weather alert. The alert will be issued as a (CEM).

Local stations should carry or broadcast any information provided by the NWS concerning weather events. Each station's management makes the decision to activate for other weather warnings or watches. It should also be understood that nothing in this plan prohibits any station from initiating its own EAS announcement originating from observations of its own personnel.

XI. GUIDANCE FOR BROADCASTING EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM ALERTS

National level alert messages **must be carried** by all radio and television stations and cable systems or that station or system **must go off the air**. Participation by broadcasters in local, state-level and national weather service activation is voluntary. If carried, the message must be carried in its entirety with no changes.

A. *Radio Transmission of an EAS Alert*

Radio stations shall fulfill the audio portion of an EAS activation by carrying the entire audio feed from their LP-1 or LP-2 station. Stations are strongly urged to place their EAS encoder/decoders in full automatic relay for incoming messages.

Daytime only stations receiving an activation message overnight must, upon arrival, immediately broadcast the alert if the time stamp for that emergency is still valid. If the time stamp for the issued warning or alert has expired, then the station need only note in their log that the message was received.

B. *Telecasting an EAS Alert*

Television stations shall fulfill the video portion of EAS activation by transmitting a visual message containing the Originator, Event, Location and the valid time period as contained in the EAS digital header signal of an EAS message. If the message is a video crawl, it shall be displayed at the top of the television screen or where it will not interfere with other visual messages. FCC 11.51(D).

Cable systems with 10,000 or more subscribers shall fulfill the video portion of an EAS activation by transmitting the visual EAS message on all channels. The visual message shall contain the Originator, Event, Location and the valid time period as contained in the EAS digital header signal of an EAS message. If the message is a video crawl, it shall

be displayed at the top of the subscriber's television screen or where it will not interfere with other visual messages. (FCC 11.51, G-3).

The State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) recognizes many local Cable Television Franchise Authorities have agreements in place with local cable companies to provide audio over-rides or similar emergency alerting capabilities in addition to those required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). This plan in no way prohibits any such agreements.

However, Local Franchise Authorities are strongly encouraged to utilize the EAS to disseminate emergency notifications by contacting their local Emergency Management office and requesting activation of the Emergency Alert System. By routing the emergency information through the local Emergency Management office, the maximum number of people, both cable and non-cable television customer, can be notified in the shortest possible time.

XII. GUIDANCE FOR ORIGINATORS OF EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM ALERTS

Only those entities specifically authorized by the applicable LAECC and/or the SECC shall input emergency messages into the EAS system. Those entities are listed in Appendix A.

A. *Guidance for National Weather Service Personnel*

NWS personnel issue weather and other EAS alerts via NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) using the NOAA-Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME)/EAS Codes. NWS procedures are followed concerning the transmission of SAME/EAS codes, the NWR 1050 Hz warning alarm, and reading of the weather or appropriate EAS script.
The NWS serves as the back-up provider of EAS alerts and tests in North Carolina and will assume that responsibility at the request of designated EM officials.

B. *Guidance for Emergency Management Personnel*

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is designed so that local EM officials may request alerts through either the State EOC or through their local NWS office. Statewide alerts may be generated by the NCEOC, NCSHP or NCCMP using EMnet or through activation of the EAS daisy-chain.

GLOSSARY

Activation
The initiation of the Emergency Alert System by transmission of the Emergency Alert System codes.

ASCII
A standard set of text characters with numerical equivalents.

AMBER Alert
Common term for a Child Abduction Emergency.

Attention Signal
Eight seconds of two tones (853 and 960 Hz) used as an audio alert.

Authenticator Word Lists
A list of words used to substantiate authenticity of transmitter and receiver. The list is furnished by NCEM to all LP-1 and LP-2 stations, the seven National Weather Service offices with warning responsibilities in North Carolina, all local emergency management offices and others designated to request activation.

Authorization Letter
The official authorization letter, given by the FCC, for a broadcast station to go off the air during a national level activation of the Emergency Alert System.

Automatic Interruption
The automatic encoding and transmission of Emergency Alert System codes for pre-selected events.

Certification
An equipment authorization issued by the FCC based on representations and test data submitted by the applicant for equipment designated to be operated without individual license under Parts 15 and 18 of the rules.

Decoder (Emergency Alert System)
An electronic device used by Emergency Alert System participants to receive alerts and to translate the Emergency Alert System codes into a visual message.

Emergency Action Notification (EAN)
The message for national Emergency Alert System activation.

Emergency Action Termination (EAT)
The message for national Emergency Alert System termination.

EMnet
Communication system that serves as primary purveyor of NC EAS tests and alerts.

Encoder (Emergency Alert System)
An electronic device used by Emergency Alert System participants to originate Emergency Alert System alerts by creating the Emergency Alert System codes for transmission to other participants and the public.

Encoder (Two-Tone)
A electronic device that produces the two-tone signal.

En/dec Box
An electronic device capable of originating and receiving EAS alerts and translating EAS codes into a visual or audible message.

EOM (end-of-message) Code
In ASCII form 'NNNN', this burst of data, sent three times, signifies the end of an Emergency Alert System message and Emergency Alert System activation.

Event Codes
A three character ASCII code in the Emergency Alert System headers that denotes the type or cause of emergency event.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
One of the three federal agencies that administer the Emergency Alert System.

Federal Information Processing System Number (FIPS)
A five character ASCII code in the Emergency Alert System headers that represent those counties affected by an Emergency Alert System activation, as defined by the Federal Information Processing System that assigns each state and territory with their respective counties a five digit number.

Header Signal
A single string of intelligent digital Emergency Alert System ASCII data that includes the originator, event, location, time period, and other basic information concerning an emergency.

Key Source
A source which is central to the dissemination of emergency alerts and information, such as National Primary, State Primary, State Relay or Local Primary broadcast stations or cable systems.

Local Primary (LP)
A source within an Emergency Alert System Local Area that is the primary source of Emergency Alert System programming for that area.

Location Code
An ASCII code in an Emergency Alert System header that specifies the location of an emergency utilizing the five character Federal Information Processing System (FIPS) code of a state and county, and a sixth character to designate nine divisions of a county.

Monitoring Assignment
The off-air broadcast or cable sources of Emergency Alert System activations and programming as given in the FCC Mapbook and the state plan.

National Information Center (NIC)
A source of official federal government information.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
One of the three federal agencies that participate in Emergency Alert System.

National Originator Codes
Originator codes required by the FCC.

National Periodic Test (NPT)
A test of National Primary Emergency Alert System sources.

National Primary (NP)
A primary source of Presidential or other national Emergency Alert System activations and programming, including broadcast stations involved with the PEP system and EAN Networks.

National Weather Service (NWS)
An operation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration directly responsible for issuing local weather-related emergency alerts and warnings in addition to day-to-day forecasts and other weather activities. Upon request by a local authority, the NWS will disseminate civil emergency messages.

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)
A service of the National Weather Service that provides to a local area continuous broadcasts of the latest weather information, weather-related emergency warnings and civil emergency EAS messages using one of seven VHF radio channels.

Non-participating National (NPN)
An Emergency Alert System source (usually a broadcast station) that has elected not to participate in the National-level Emergency Alert System and removes its carrier from the air if a national-level activation occurs.

Operating Handbook
A document issued by the FCC that instructs broadcast station and cable personnel of the actions they must take during an activation of Emergency Alert System.

Participating National (PN)
Broadcast stations, cable systems, or MDS stations which monitor primary sources of Emergency Alert System programming and directly feed emergency alerts to the public.

Preselected Code
Broadcast stations, cable systems, or MDS stations which monitor primary sources of Emergency Alert System programming and directly feed emergency alerts to the public.

Primary Entry Point (PEP*)*
Key broadcast stations throughout the U.S. that together can provide national emergency information.

Protocol
A standard set of guidelines by which digital information encoded and decoded, including the common code structure, character set used, the sequence and timing of codes, and modulation technique used for radio transmission.

Program Priorities
The precedence of the information that must be transmitted during an Emergency Alert System activation, namely national, local, and state activations in that order.

Required Monthly Test (RMT)
A coordinated monthly test of Emergency Alert System operations involving the full receiving and transmission of Emergency Alert System codes, Attention Signal, Emergency Alert System test programming, and Emergency Alert System end-of-message (EOM) codes.

Required Weekly Test (RWT)
An independent weekly test of Emergency Alert System equipment only involving the decoding and encoding of Emergency Alert System header codes and end-of-message (EOM) codes.

State/Local Plan
A document that details monitoring assignments and actions to be taken in emergency activations, and other guidance for broadcasters and cable personnel in use of the Emergency Alert System. Each locality is responsible for maintaining a current local plan.

State Primary (SP)
A primary source of Emergency Alert System state programming which can originate with a Governor or designated representative, such as a state's emergency operations officer.

State Relay (SR)
An entity which receives and retransmits Emergency Alert System activations in a State Relay Network to assist in bringing a state activation to all Emergency Alert System Local Area of a state.

SR-3 Station
Additional FM radio stations added to LP-1 and LP-2 distribution system to offer redundant relay points in daisy-chain.

State Relay Network
A system of facilities used to distribute State Emergency Alert System activations and programming across a state.

Weather Radio Specific Area Message Encoder *(*WRSAME)
A device used by National Weather Service to broadcast WRSAME data on the National Weather Radio for day-to-day forecasts and weather related emergency announcements.

ACRONYMS

C

CAE	--	Child Abduction Emergency
CFR	--	Code of Federal Regulations
CEM	--	Civil Emergency Message
CEMC	--	County Emergency Management Coordinator
CIV	--	Civil Authorities
CPG	--	Civil Preparedness Guides

D

DMA	--	Designated Market Area
DMIS	--	Disaster Management Interoperability Service

E

EAN	--	Emergency Action Notification.
EAS	--	Emergency Alert System
EAS-AP	--	EAS Activation Point
EMnet	--	Emergency Management Network
EAT	--	Emergency Action Termination.
ENDEC	--	Encoder/decoder
EOC	--	Emergency Operations Center
EOM	--	End-of-message

F

FEMA	--	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FCC	--	Federal Communication Commission
FIPS	--	Federal Information Processing System Codes
FNF	--	Fixed Nuclear Facility

L

LAECC	--	Local Area Emergency Communications Committees
LPTV	--	Low power TV
LP1	--	Local Primary 1 (lead station)
LP2	--	Local Primary 2 (back-up station)

N

NCCMP	--	North Carolina Center for Missing Persons
NCEOC	--	North Carolina Emergency Operations Center
NC SECC	--	North Carolina State Emergency Communications Committee
NCEM	--	North Carolina Emergency Management
NCSHP	--	North Carolina State Highway Patrol
NIC	--	National Information Center
NN	--	Non-participating National
NOAA	--	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
NP	--	National Primary
NPT	--	National Periodic Test
NWR	--	NOAA Weather Radio
NWS	--	National Weather Service

P

PEP	--	Primary Entry Point stations.
PN	--	Participating National

R

RMT	--	Required Monthly Test
RWT	--	Required Weekly Test

S

SAME	--	Specific Area Message Encoder
SECC	--	State Emergency Communications Committee
SP1	--	State Primary 1
SP2	--	State Primary 2. Backup to SP1.
SR	--	State Relay Station
SRN	--	State Relay Network
SWP	--	State Warning Point

W

WHCA	--	White House Communication Agency
WRSAME	--	Weather Radio Specific Area Message Encoder

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A
Roster of Entities Authorized to Activate the Emergency Alert System

- Governor, State of North Carolina
- Secretary, Crime Control & Public Safety
- Director, State of North Carolina Division of Emergency Management
- State Emergency Response Team Leader
- NC Emergency Management Duty Officer
- Senior NCEM Communications Officer on duty
- National Weather Service representative
- The Director of NC Center for Missing Persons or designated representative
- State Emergency Communication Committee members
- An EM county coordinator or local government authority may contact the local National Weather Service office and request NWS to issue a Civil Emergency Message over NOAA Weather Radio
- An EM county coordinator may initiate an EAS message, or relay a request from a county manager or local emergency worker, by notifying the State EOC via fax.
- An EM county coordinator or local government authority may contact the local area LP-1 or LP-2 and request issuance of a CEM.
- A local broadcast station may initiate an EAS announcement based on observations of its own personnel

APPENDIX B
State of North Carolina Emergency Communications Committee

NORTH CAROLINA
STATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (SECC)

The State Emergency Communications Committee Chairman and Co-Chairmen for radio, television, cable and utility are appointed by the Federal Communications Commission. The chairman and co-chairman of the ten Local Area Emergency Communications Committees and other voluntary members appointed by the SECC Chairman are also members of the SECC.

Chairman
Mr. Carl Venters
148 Edgewater Lane
Wilmington, N.C.28403
910-256-6765
venterscv@hotmail.com

Utility Co-Chairman
Mr. Rick Wallace
BellSouth
5715 Glenwood Ave
Raleigh, N.C. 27612
919-783-1292
rick.wallace@bellsouth.com

Cable Co-Chairman
Mr. Mark Eagle
AOL / Time Warner
101 Innovation Avenue
Morrisville, N.C. 27560
919-573-7083
mark.eagle@twcable.com

Radio Co-Chairman
Mr. Keith Harrison
WRAL-FM
PO Box 10100
Raleigh, N.C. 27605
919-890-6110
kharrison@wralfm.com

TV Co-Chairman
Mr. Jim Gamble
WRAZ-TV
P.O. Box 30050
Durham, N.C. 27702
919-595-5050
jgamble@fox50.com

LOCAL AREA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (LAECC)

The Local Area Emergency Communications Committee (LAECC) Chair and Co-Chair are appointed by the FCC. Members are appointed to the LAECC by the Area Chairman. The LAECC's are subcommittees of the SECC. The LAECC Chairman and Co-Chairman for the ten Local Areas in North Carolina are as follows:

ASHEVILLE LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Mr. Tom Atema
WMIT-FM
P.O. Box 159
Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
828-669-8477
tatema@brb.org

Co-Chairman
Art Leisey
888-344-3406

CHARLOTTE LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Mr. Ron Tollison
WLNK-FM
One Julian Price Place
Charlotte, N.C. 28208
704-374-3521
rtollison@jpc.com

Co-Chairman
Ron Wright
Time Warner
ron.wright@twcable.com

COLUMBIA LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Vacant

Co-Chairman
Mr. Gene Lewis
Sprint Telephone
P.O. Box 829
Williamston, N.C. 27892
252-792-9058
michael.e2.lewis@mail.sprint.com

FAYETTEVILLE LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Mr. Tom Haymond
WQSM-FM
P.O. Box 35297
Fayetteville, N.C. 28303
910-864-5222
tom.haymond@cumulus.com

Co-Chairman
Mr. Peter O'Toole
Sprint Telephone
717 McGilvary Street
Fayetteville, N.C. 28301
910-323-9031
peter.m.o'toole@mail.sprint.com

GOLDSBORO LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Mr. Fred Pace
WRDU-FM
3100 Smoketree Court
Raleigh, N.C. 27604
919-874-9863
fpace@triangleradio.com

Co-Chairman
Mr. Dan Herring
Sprint Telephone
3930 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, N.C. 27804
252-977-9008
dan.herring@mail.sprint.com

RALEIGH LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Mr. Paul Michels
Curtis Media
3012 Highwoods Blvd.
Raleigh, N.C. 27604
919-876-674
pmichels@curtismedia.com

Co-Chairman
Mr. Eric Sommer
BellSouth
5215 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, N.C. 27612
919-785-7704
eric.sommer@bridge.bellsouth.com

STATESVILLE LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Mr. Dave Kester
WFMX-FM
1117 Radio Road
Statesville, N.C. 28677
336-333-3205
davekester@clearchannel.com

Co-Chairman
Vacant

TRIAD LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Mr. Byron Tucker
WZTK-FM
1109 Tower Dr.
Burlington, N.C. 27215
336-584-0126
btucker@curtismedia.com

Co-Chairman
Vacant

WASHINGTON LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Vacant

Co-Chairman
Mr. Gene Lewis
Sprint Telephone
P.O. Box 829
Williamston, N.C. 27892
252-792-9058
michael.e2.lewis@mail.sprint.com

WILMINGTON LOCAL AREA

Chairman
Mr. Jim Principi
WMNX-FM
P.O. Box 5307
Wilmington, N.C. 28403
910-763-9977
jim.principi@cumulus.com

Co-Chairman
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Raleigh, N.C. 27612
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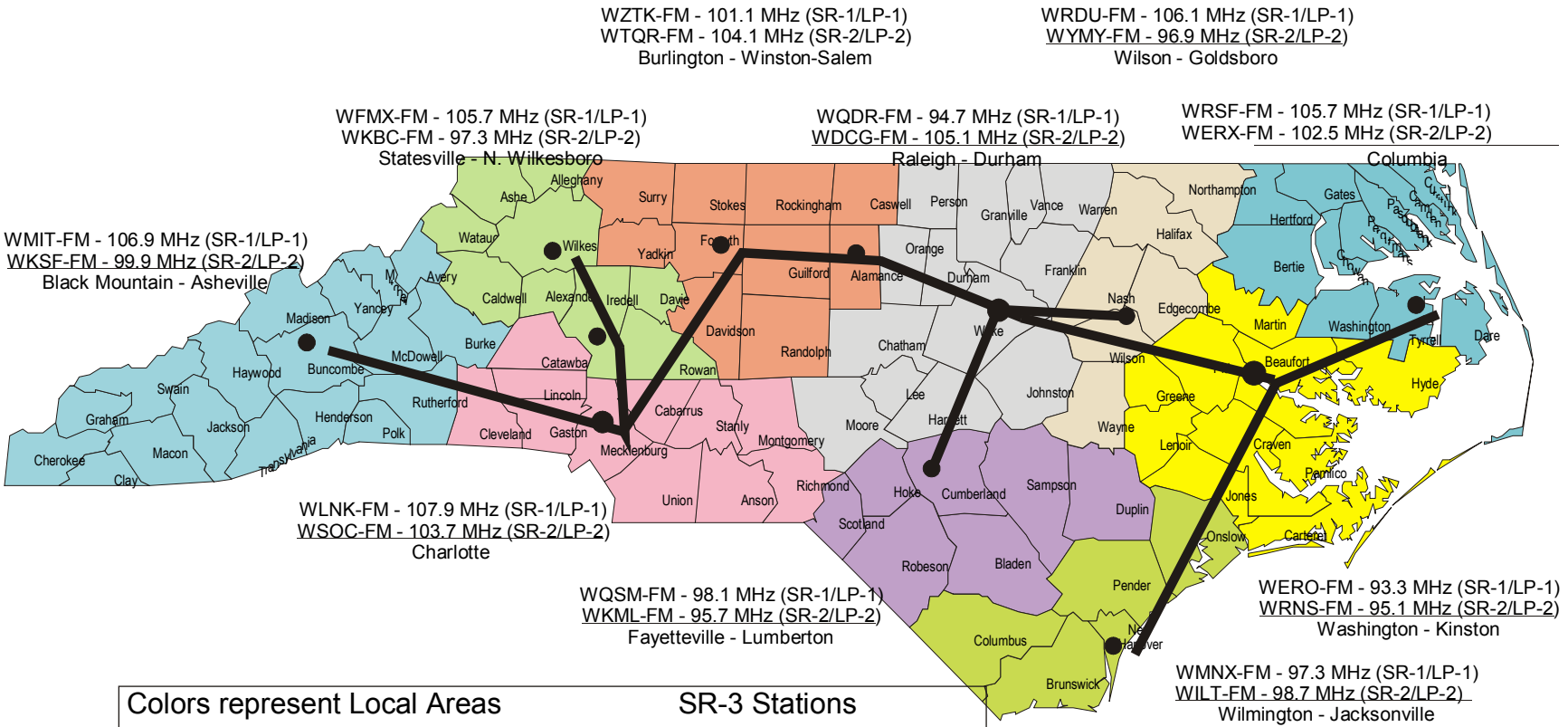
MEMBER AT LARGE
Jeff Orrock
National Weather Service
105 Capability Drive
Raleigh, N.C. 27606
919-515-8209 ext: 223
Stephen.Harned@noaa.gov

MEMBER AT LARGE
Mr. Gary Faltinowski
Assistant Director
NC Emergency Management
4713 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4713
gfaltinowski@ncem.org

Appendix C
State of North Carolina Emergency Alert Relay System



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APPENDIX D
Emergency Alert System "Daisy Chain" Network

WQDR-FM (Raleigh) is the EAS State Primary (SP-1), and WDCG-FM (Durham) is the EAS State Primary-2 (SP-2). WQDR-FM (94.7) and WDCG-FM (105.1) serve as the LP-1 and LP-2 respectively for the Raleigh Local Area. State relay stations are FCC Class C-1 or better licensees. SR-3 stations were established to offer redundant relay points within the EAS distribution network.

In the over the air, "daisy chain" network, when WQDR-FM originates a statewide EAS message, the outbound pattern for the LP-1-Network is:

WQDR-FM alerts:	WERO-FM (93.3),	Washington Local Area
	WRDU-FM (106.1),	Goldsboro Local Area
	WQSM-FM (98.1),	Fayetteville Local Area
	WZTK-FM (101.1),	Triad Local Area
In turn:		
WERO-FM alerts	WRSF-FM (105.7),	Columbia Local Area
WERO-FM alerts	WMNX-FM (97.3),	Wilmington Local Area
WZTK-FM alerts	WTQR-FM (104.1),	Triad Local Area
WTQR-FM alerts	WLNK-FM (107.9),	Charlotte Local Area
WLNK-FM alerts	WMIT-FM (106.9),	Asheville Local Area
WLNK-FM alerts	WFMX-FM (105.7),	Statesville Local Area

When WDCG-FM *originates* a statewide EAS message, the outbound pattern for the LP-2 Network is:

WDCG-FM alerts:	WYMY-FM (96.9),	Goldsboro Local Area
	WKML-FM (95.7),	Fayetteville Local Area
	WTQR-FM (104.1),	Triad Local Area
In turn:		
WYMY-FM alerts:	WRNS-FM (95.1),	Washington Local Area
WRNS-FM alerts	WERX-FM (102.5),	Columbia Local Area
WRNS-FM alerts	WILT-FM (98.7),	Wilmington Local Area
WTQR-FM alerts	WSOC-FM (103.7),	Charlotte Local Area
WTQR-FM alerts	WKBC-FM (97.3),	Statesville Local Area
WSOC-FM alerts	WKSF-FM (99.9),	Asheville Local Area

APPENDIX E
EAS Monitoring Assignments by Local Area

MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS BY LOCAL AREA

This section specifies the required LP1 and LP2 monitor assignments in each local area and the counties in those areas. Additionally, the National Weather Service monitor assignments are listed with preferred and optional choices. The SR-3 stations form a voluntary network to support the existing LP-1s & LP-2s as additional relays. The LP-1s and LP-2s are requested to add a monitor to their system beyond the assignments detailed below. The additional monitor should be an SR-3, or an adjacent area LP in the absence of a useable SR signal. Choice of monitor is at the LP's discretion.

SR-3 stations in the network:

WIBT-FM, (96.1) Shelby
WKRR-FM, (92.3) Asheboro
WMGV-FM, (103.3) Newport
WRAL-FM, (101.5) Raleigh

ASHEVILLE LOCAL AREA

WMIT-FM 106.9 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WLNK-FM, WKSF-FM, EMnet, WXL-56 162.400 MHz (Asheville)
WKSF-FM 99.9 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WMIT-FM, WSOC-FM, EMnet, WWG-82 162.525 MHz (Joanne Bald Mt.)
National Weather Service: WXL-56 162.400 MHz, WWG-82 162.525 MHz, (WNG-52 162.550 MHz)

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania and Yancey, which compose the Asheville Local Area, will monitor WMIT-FM, WKSF-FM and NWS Radio for this area.

CHARLOTTE LOCAL AREA

WLNK-FM 107.9 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WTQR-FM, WSOC-FM, EMnet, WXL-70 162.475 MHz (Charlotte)
WSOC-FM 103.7 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WLNK-FM, WTQR-FM, EMnet, WXL-70 162.475 MHz (Charlotte)
National Weather Service: WXL-70 162.475 MHz, (WWF-60 162.500 MHz, WNG-597 162.400 MHz)

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Anson, Cabarrus, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Richmond, Stanly and Union, which compose the Charlotte Local Area, will monitor WLNK-FM, WSOC-FM and NWS Radio for this area.

COLUMBIA LOCAL AREA

WRSF-FM 105.7 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WERO-FM, WERX-FM, EMnet, WWH-26 162.425 MHz (Mamie)
WERX-FM 102.5 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WRSF-FM, WRNS-FM, EMnet, WNG-537 162.525 MHz (Windsor)
National Weather Service: WWH-26 162.425 MHz, WNG-537 162.525 MHz

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington, which compose the Columbia Local Area, will

monitor WRSF-FM, WERX-FM and NWS Radio for this area.

FAYETTEVILLE LOCAL AREA

WQSM-FM 98.1 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WQDR-FM, WKML-FM, EMnet, WXL-50 162.475 MHz (Fayetteville)
WKML-FM 95.7 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WQSM-FM, WDCG-FM, EMnet, WXL-50 162.475 MHz (Fayetteville)
National Weather Service: WXL-50 162.475 MHz, (WWF-89 162.525 MHz, KXI-95 162.425 MHz)

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Scotland, Robeson, Bladen, Hoke, Sampson, Duplin and Cumberland, which compose the Fayetteville Local Area, will monitor WQSM-FM, WKML-FM and NWS Radio for this area.

GOLDSBORO LOCAL AREA

WRDU-FM 106.1 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WQDR-FM, WYMY-FM, EMnet, WXI-72 162.450 MHz (Garner)
WYMY-FM 96.9 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WRDU-FM, WDCG-FM, EMnet, WXI-72 162.450 MHz (Garner)
National Weather Service: WXI-72 162.450 MHz, (WXL-59 162.475 MHz)

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Wilson, Nash, Edgecombe, Halifax, Northampton and Wayne, which compose the Goldsboro Local Area, will monitor WRDU-FM, WYMY-FM, and NWS Radio for this area.

RALEIGH LOCAL AREA

WQDR-FM 94.7 (SP-1/LP-1) monitors: WDCG-FM, WZTK-FM, EMnet, WXL-58 162.550 MHz (Chapel Hill)
WDCG-FM 105.1 (SP-2/LP-2) monitors: WQDR-FM, WTQR-FM, EMnet, WXL-58 162.550 MHz (Chapel Hill)
National Weather Service: WXL-58 162.550 MHz, (WNG-586 162.500 MHz, WXI-72 162.450)

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Orange, Person, Vance, Wake and Warren, which compose the Raleigh Local Area, will monitor WQDR-FM, WDCG-FM, and NWS Radio for this area.

STATESVILLE LOCAL AREA

WFMX-FM 105.7 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WLNK-FM, WKBC-FM, EMnet, WXL-42 162.400 MHz (Winston-Salem)
WKBC-FM 97.3 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WFMX-FM, WTQR-FM, EMnet, WNG-587 162.525 MHz (Mt. Jefferson)
National Weather Service: WXL-42 162.400 MHz, WNG-587 162.525 MHz

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Caldwell, Davie, Iredell, Rowan, Watauga, and Wilkes, which compose the Statesville Local Area, will monitor WFMX-FM, WKBC-FM and NWS Radio for this area.

TRIAD LOCAL AREA

WZTK-FM 101.1 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WQDR-FM, WTQR-FM, EMnet, WXL-42 162.400 MHz (Winston-Salem)
WTQR-FM 104.1 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WZTK-FM, WFMX-FM, EMnet, WXL-42 162.400 MHz (Winston-Salem)
National Weather Service: WXL-42 162.400 MHz

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Alamance, Caswell, Randolph, Guilford, Rockingham, Stokes, Forsyth, Davidson, Yadkin, and Surry, which compose the Triad Local Area, will monitor WZTK-FM, WTQR-FM, and NWS Radio for this area.

WASHINGTON LOCAL AREA

WERO-FM 93.3 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WQDR-FM, WRNS-FM, EMnet, KEC-84 162.400 MHz (New Bern)
WRNS-FM 95.1 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WERO-FM, WYMY-FM, EMnet, KEC-84 162.400 MHz (New Bern)
National Weather Service: KEC-84 162.400 MHz, (KEG-77 162.475)

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Martin, Beaufort, Pitt, Greene, Lenoir, Jones, Carteret, Craven, Pamlico, and Hyde, which compose the Washington Local Area, will monitor WERO-FM, WRNS-FM, and NWS Radio for this area.

WILMINGTON LOCAL AREA

WMNX-FM 97.3 (SR-1/LP-1) monitors: WERO-FM, WILT-FM, EMnet, KHB-31 162.550 MHz (Wilmington)
WILT-FM 98.7 (SR-2/LP-2) monitors: WMNX-FM, WRNS-FM, EMnet, KHB-31 162.550 MHz (Wilmington)
National Weather Service: KHB-31 162.550 MHz

All radio and television stations with city of license and cable operators with their franchise agreements in the counties of Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover, Pender and Onslow, which compose the Wilmington Local Area, will monitor WMNX-FM, WILT-FM and NWS Radio for this area.

The Plan's monitor assignments are based on a station's City of License and attendant transmitter location within an Operational Area. When a station relocates its studios, the monitor assignments remain the same and the station is expected to continue to monitor these assignments. If the studios are moved into an Operational Area different than the Area of its City of License, the station may, additionally, monitor LPs for the new Operational Area.

Similarly, cable companies must monitor the assigned stations for the respective counties of the viewers they serve.

Detailed NOAA Weather coverage can be found in Appendices G & H and on the internet at **http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rah/ncnwr/**

APPENDIX F
National-level Emergency Alert System

I. GENERAL

This Appendix provides background information on the national level of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). Participants in the State and local EAS planning should be aware of this information to understand how their organization level contributes to the nationwide system, and how their operations could be impacted by a nationwide activation.

II. NATIONAL LEVEL EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

The President requires a reliable means for communicating with the American public on short notice during periods of national crisis or major emergency to provide reassurance and direction regarding response and recovery. The President must be able to address the nation on AM and FM radio, as well as television and cable television audio, within ten minutes of an activation notice. In addition, the President must be able to address the nation on live television, audio and video, upon arrival at a designated television studio. This capability must exist under a variety of conditions, i.e., before, during, and after the situation or attack. Once activated, the national-level EAS remains available for the dissemination of high priority national programming. These capabilities must also be available to any Presidential successors.

III. SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

When activated, the national-level EAS consists of a nationwide network of voluntary communications entities. The system is designed to maintain communications with the general public in the event of an attack, a threat of war, a state of public peril, disaster, or other national emergency. Each EAS source assumes the responsibility for serving a specifically designated area known in the EAS as a Local Area. Serving the Local Area involves disseminating local area instructions, news and information, Presidential messages, Governors' messages, State information, national programming and news.

IV. ACTIVATION AUTHORITY

The authority to activate the national-level EAS rests solely with the President of the United States. The following sequence activates the national-level EAS.

A. *Presidential Decision*

A Presidential Decision to activate the EAS is made, and then passed to the White House Communications Agency (WHCA) for implementation.

B. *The White House Communications Agency Contacts the Federal Emergency Emergency Management Agency*

The White House Communication Agency (WHCA) will contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with EAS implementation instructions.

C. The Federal Emergency Management Agency Relays the Order

FEMA, using a network, relays the Emergency Action Notice (EAN) order information to the communications industry.

1. *Communications Entities*

FEMA transmits the EAN to the National Primary (NP) broadcast entities using the EAS system. The NP in North Carolina is WQDR-FM (94.7) in Raleigh.

2. *Relay*

The EAN is relayed from the PEP stations to the State EAS Network control points and then to all stations and cable systems.

V. PROGRAMMING

Voice circuits are in place for EAS programming at all times and can be originated at FEMA.

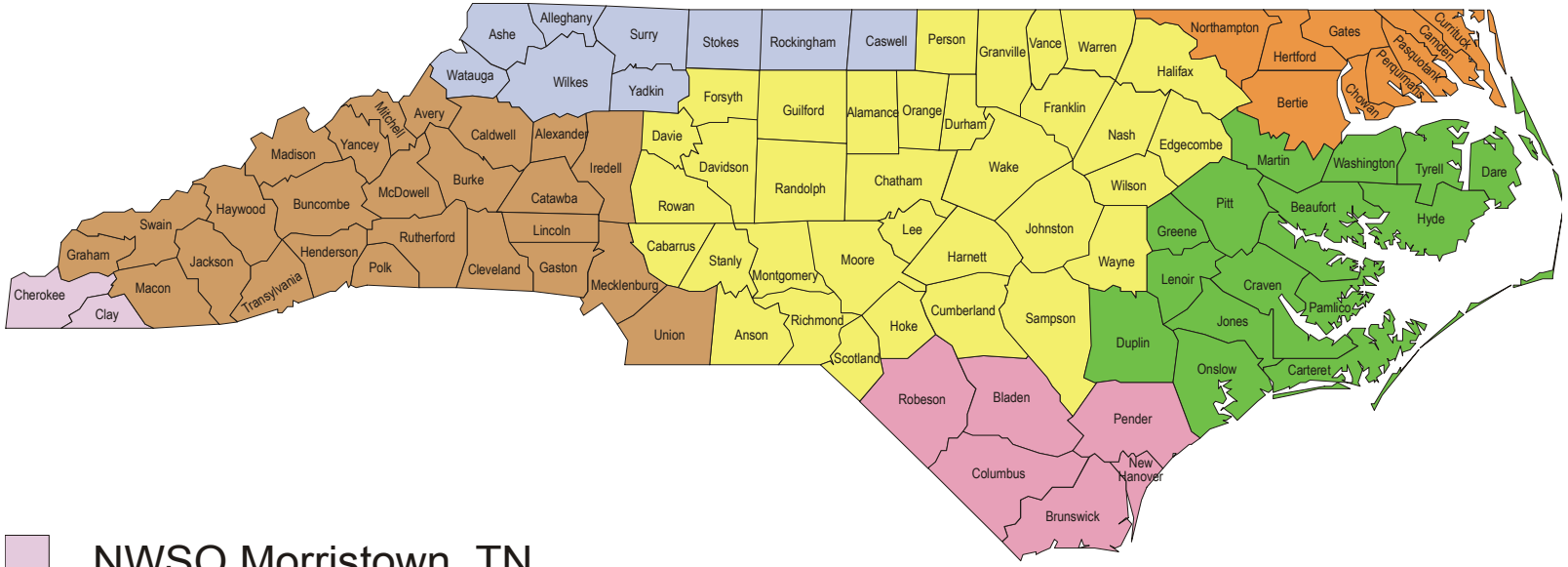
VI. TERMINATION

At the conclusion of an incident when the national-level EAS is no longer needed, a termination order is issued. At the conclusion of the EAS program, the WHCA Trip Officer issues a termination order over the program circuitry. FEMA then transmits an Emergency Action Termination (EAT) message. The termination order is then relayed along the EAS network to all EAS participants.

APPENDIX G

National Weather Service Forecast Area Map

National Weather Service Forecast Areas



NWSO Morristown, TN

NWSO Greer, SC

NWSO Blacksburg, VA

NWSO Raleigh, NC

NWSO Wilmington, NC

NWSO Newport, NC

NWSO Wakefield, VA

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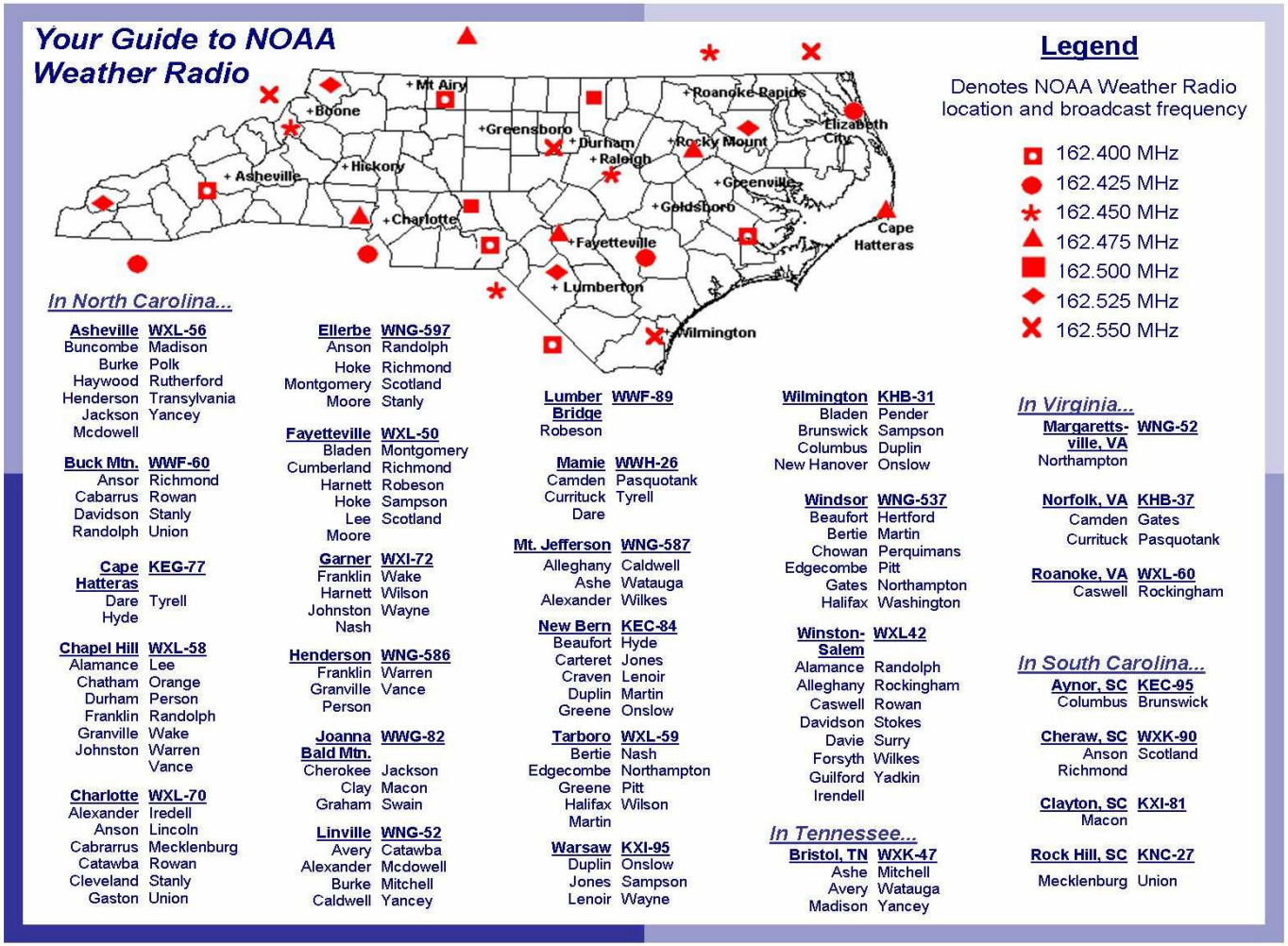
APPENDIX H
NWR Station Locations and Radio Frequencies



In North Carolina...

Asheville	**WXL-56**
Buncombe	Madison
Burke	Polk
Haywood	Rutherford
Henderson	Transylvania
Jackson	Yancey
Mcdowell	

Buck Mtn.	**WWF-60**
Ansor	Richmond
Cabarrus	Rowan
Davidson	Stanly
Randolph	Union

Cape Hatteras	**KEG-77**
Dare	Tyrell
Hyde	

Chapel Hill	**WXL-58**
Alamance	Lee
Chatham	Orange
Durham	Person
Franklin	Randolph
Granville	Wake
Johnston	Warren
	Vance

Charlotte	**WXL-70**
Alexander	Iredell
Anson	Lincoln
Cabrarrus	Mecklenburg
Catawba	Rowan
Cleveland	Stanly
Gaston	Union

Ellerbe	**WNG-597**
Anson	Randolph
Hoke	Richmond
Montgomery	Scotland
Moore	Stanly

Fayetteville	**WXL-50**
Bladen	Montgomery
Cumberland	Richmond
Harnett	Robeson
Hoke	Sampson
Lee	Scotland
Moore	

Garner	**WXI-72**
Franklin	Wake
Harnett	Wilson
Johnston	Wayne
Nash	

Henderson	**WNG-586**
Franklin	Warren
Granville	Vance
Person	

Joanna Bald Mtn.	**WWG-82**
Cherokee	Jackson
Clay	Macon
Graham	Swain

Linville	**WNG-52**
Avery	Catawba
Alexander	Mcdowell
Burke	Mitchell
Caldwell	Yancey

Lumber Bridge	**WWF-89**
Robeson	

Mamie	**WWH-26**
Camden	Pasquotank
Currituck	Tyrell
Dare	

Mt. Jefferson	**WNG-587**
Alleghany	Caldwell
Ashe	Watauga
Alexander	Wilkes

New Bern	**KEC-84**
Beaufort	Hyde
Carteret	Jones
Craven	Lenoir
Duplin	Martin
Greene	Onslow

Tarboro	**WXL-59**
Bertie	Nash
Edgecombe	Northampton
Greene	Pitt
Halifax	Wilson
Martin	

Warsaw	**KXI-95**
Duplin	Onslow
Jones	Sampson
Lenoir	Wayne

Wilmington	**KHB-31**
Bladen	Pender
Brunswick	Sampson
Columbus	Duplin
New Hanover	Onslow

Windsor	**WNG-537**
Beaufort	Hertford
Bertie	Martin
Chowan	Perquimans
Edgecombe	Pitt
Gates	Northampton
Halifax	Washington

Winston-Salem	**WXL42**
Alamance	Randolph
Alleghany	Rockingham
Caswell	Rowan
Davidson	Stokes
Davie	Surry
Forsyth	Wilkes
Guilford	Yadkin
Irendell	

In Tennessee...

Bristol, TN	**WXK-47**
Ashe	Mitchell
Avery	Watauga
Madison	Yancey

In Virginia...

Margaretts-ville, VA	**WNG-52**
Northampton	

Norfolk, VA	**KHB-37**
Camden	Gates
Currituck	Pasquotank

Roanoke, VA	**WXL-60**
Caswell	Rockingham

In South Carolina...

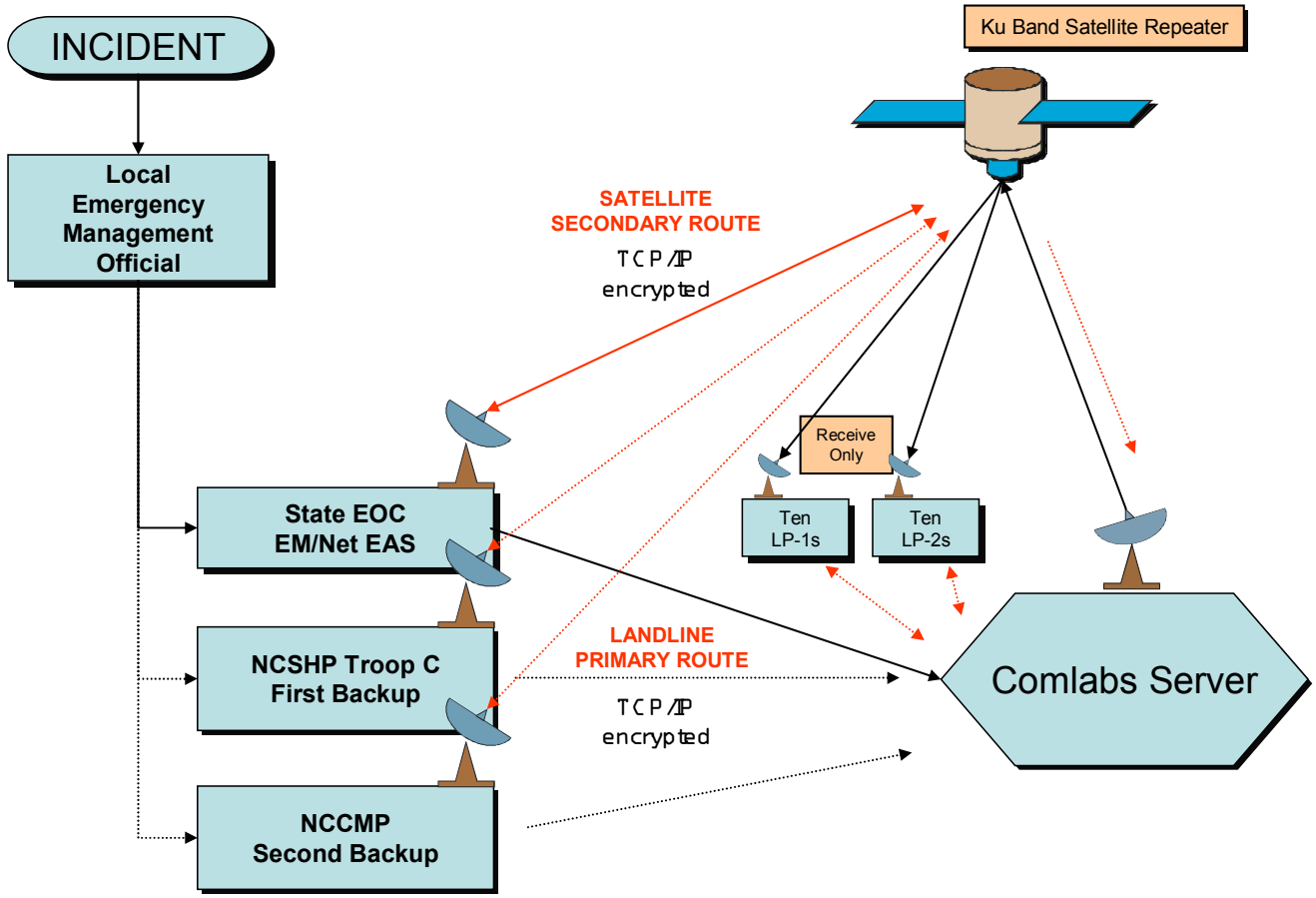
Aynor, SC	**KEC-95**
Columbus	Brunswick

Cheraw, SC	**WXK-90**
Anson	Scotland
Richmond	

Clayton, SC	**KXI-81**
Macon	

Rock Hill, SC	**KNC-27**
Mecklenburg	Union

APPENDIX I
EMnet Message Distribution System



1) State EOC will normally originate an EAS message. NC State Highway Patrol & NC Center For Missing Persons are backup transmitter sites.
2) Comlabs server verifies valid originator and then uplinks to Ku Band Satellite Repeater.
3) Satellite transmits message to all 20 LP-1 and LP-2 stations simultaneously. The message will be distributed and retransmitted according to relevant FIPS codes.
4) If the State EOC requests a receipt for a transmitted alert or test, the EMnet unit for the LP-1 and LP-2 stations will automatically report receipt of the message.
5) Every radio and TV station and cable system in the state must monitor an area LP-1 and LP-2 station.
6) In AMBER Alert situations, a local law enforcement official will report the incident to NCCMP who will then notify NCEOC.
7) Comlabs server receives message via TCP/IP internet connection. If internet connection is unavailable, message will be directed to satellite for relay to Comlabs Server.

APPENDIX J
Emergency Alert System Event Codes

Table 8. National Event Codes

Nature of Activation	Event Codes
***Emergency Action Notification (National Only)**	**EAN**
***Emergency Action Termination (National Only)**	**EAT**
***National Information Center**	**NIC**
***National Periodic Test**	**NPT**
***Required Monthly Test**	**RMT**
***Required Weekly Test**	**RWT**

Table 9. Local Event Codes

Nature of Activation	Event Codes
Administrative Message	ADR
Blizzard Warning	BZW
***Child Abduction Emergency**	**CAE**
***Civil Emergency Message**	**CEM**
Coastal Flood Warning	CFW
***Evacuation Immediate**	**EVI**
***Flash Flood Warning**	**FFW**
Flash Flood Watch	FFA
Flood Warning	FLW
Flood Watch	FLA
***High Wind Warning**	**HWW**
Hurricane Statement	HLS
Hurricane Warning	HUW
Hurricane Watch	HUA
***Nuclear Power Plant Warning**	**NUW**
***Practice/Demo Warning**	**DMO**
Severe Thunderstorm Warning	SVR
Severe Thunderstorm Watch	SVA
***Tornado Warning**	**TOR**
***Tornado Watch**	**TOA**
Tsunami Warning	TSW
Winter Storm Warning	WSW
NOTE: By NWS definition, CFW, HUW, & TSW codes apply to coastal and sound counties and should be programmed in endecs of stations serving the coast.	***Codes in BOLD with an * are required to be programmed into your EAS encoder/decoder statewide.***

APPENDIX K

Federal Information Processing System (FIPS) Codes

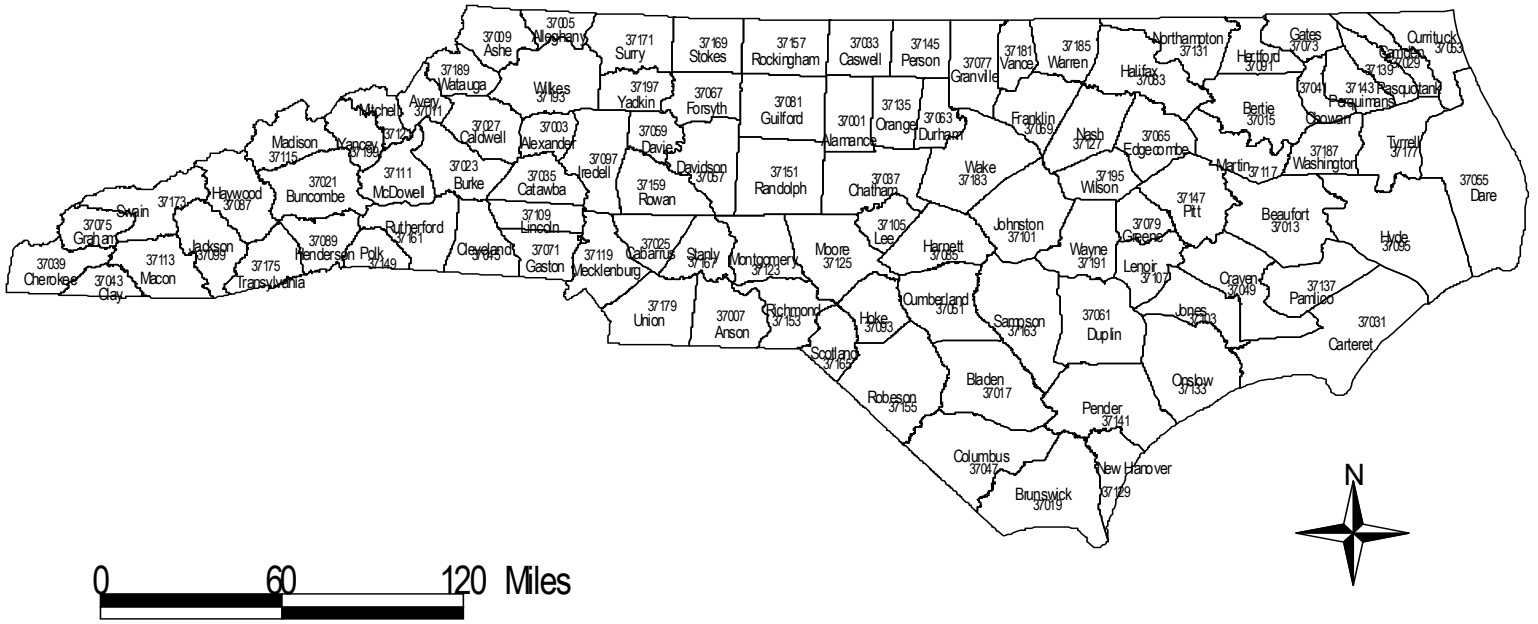
FIPS CODES

STATE NAME: North Carolina STATE CODE: 37 ALPHABETIC CODE: NC

001	Alamance	003	Alexander	005	Alleghany
007	Anson	009	Ashe	011	Avery
013	Beaufort	015	Bertie	017	Bladen
019	Brunswick	021	Buncombe	023	Burke
025	Cabarrus	027	Caldwell	029	Camden
031	Carteret	033	Caswell	035	Catawba
037	Chatham	039	Cherokee	041	Chowan
043	Clay	045	Cleveland	047	Columbus
049	Craven	051	Cumberland	053	Currituck
055	Dare	057	Davidson	059	Davie
061	Duplin	063	Durham	065	Edgecombe
067	Forsyth	069	Franklin	071	Gaston
073	Gates	075	Graham	077	Granville
079	Greene	081	Guilford	083	Halifax
085	Harnett	087	Haywood	089	Henderson
091	Hertford	093	Hoke	095	Hyde
097	Iredell	099	Jackson	101	Johnston
103	Jones	105	Lee	107	Lenoir
109	Lincoln	111	McDowell	113	Macon
115	Madison	117	Martin	119	Mecklenburg
121	Mitchell	123	Montgomery	125	Moore
127	Nash	129	New Hanover	131	Northampton
133	Onslow	135	Orange	137	Pamlico
139	Pasquotank	141	Pender	143	Perquimans
145	Person	147	Pitt	149	Polk
151	Randolph	153	Richmond	155	Robeson
157	Rockingham	159	Rowan	161	Rutherford
163	Sampson	165	Scotland	167	Stanly
169	Stokes	171	Surry	173	Swain
175	Transylvania	177	Tyrrell	179	Union
181	Vance	183	Wake	185	Warren
187	Washington	189	Watauga	191	Wayne
193	Wilkes	195	Wilson	197	Yadkin
199	Yancey				

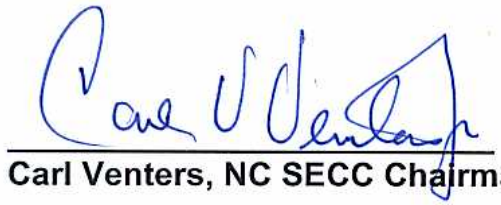
APPENDIX L
County Federal Information Processing Systems Codes

County FIPS Codes



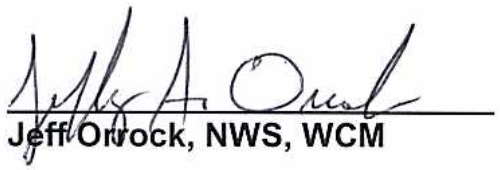
Signature Page

North Carolina Emergency Alert System State Plan
January 1, 2005



Carl Venters, NC SECC Chairman

Bryan E. Beatty, Secretary CC&PS



Jeff Orrock, NWS, WCM

Dr. Kenneth B. Taylor, NCEM