

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO**  
**EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM**  
**STATE EAS PLAN**

Revision December 11, 2001

Final Plan

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## I. Intent and Purpose of this Plan

This Plan is the FCC-mandated document outlining the organization and implementation of the State of New Mexico Emergency Alert System (EAS). It is the guideline for New Mexico broadcasters and cable TV operators to determine: their mandated and optional monitoring assignments, codes to be used in the EAS Header sequence in this state, schedule of the Required Monthly Tests (RMT=s) which must be relayed by all broadcasters and cable operators within 15 minutes of reception, and any other elements of the EAS which are unique to this state. 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 general rules regarding the Emergency Alert System.

## II. The National, State, and Local EAS: Participation and Priorities

### A.) National EAS Participation

All broadcasters and cable operators are required to participate in the National-level EAS. APN≡ (Participating National) stations and all cable operators would carry the Presidential message, ANN≡ (Non-Participating National) stations would make an announcement and sign off.

In addition, all broadcasters and cable operators must transmit a Required Weekly EAS Test (RWT), and once a month, must re-transmit the Required Monthly Test (RMT) within 15 minutes of receiving it on their EAS Decoder. These actions are required of all broadcasters and cable operators, regardless of their APN≡ or ANN≡ EAS status.

### B.) State/Local EAS Participation

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

### C.) Conditions of EAS Participation

Acceptance of/or participation in this Plan shall not be deemed as a relinquishment of program control, and shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast licensee from exercising his independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Broadcast stations and cable systems originating EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. The concept of management of each broadcast station and cable system to exercise discretion regarding the broadcast of emergency information and instructions to the general public is provided by the FCC Rules and Regulations.

### D.) EAS Priorities

Stations/cable operators are reminded that the EAS Priorities as set forth in the FCC Rules are as follows:

- 1.) National EAS Messages
- 2.) Local Area EAS Messages
- 3.) State EAS Messages
- 4.) Messages from the National Information Center (NIC)  
[These are follow-up messages after a National EAS Activation.]

### III. The New Mexico State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC)

The responsibility of administrating this Plan rests with the members of the New Mexico SECC. The SECC Chair and Vice-Chair are appointed by the FCC. SECC members include the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Local Area Emergency Communications Committees (LAECC=s) and other voluntary members appointed by the SECC Chair. LAECC Chair and Vice-Chair are appointed by the FCC. Committee members are appointed on a voluntary basis by the LAECC Chair. The LAECC=s are also subcommittees of the SECC.

#### STATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (SECC)

##### Broadcast Co-Chair

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#### LOCAL AREA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEES (LAECC=s)

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Portales, NM 88130  
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##### [Central and] North Central Area

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**Note: local area cable chairs will be established as the Commission's rules become firm**

Local area co-chairs, if desired, will be determined at the discretion of the local area chairs.

## IV. Organization and Concepts of the New Mexico EAS

### A.) EAS Designations

These are the FCC's EAS Station Designations, reflecting the EAS status of every broadcaster. Cable operator EAS designations cannot be determined at this time as the Commission's rules for cable systems are not yet announced. Consult the AFCC Mapbook or the AMonitoring Assignments sections of the Appendix of this Plan to determine your EAS Designation.

NP (National Primary) = Sole source of all National EAS Alerts. These stations will be monitored by New Mexico LP stations.

LP-1 (Local Primary) = The local broadcast station in your area which was previously the EBS CPCS-1 station. In some large areas where the LP-1 does not have complete coverage, a new LP-2 station has been designated to cover the far reaches of that Area. Information in this Plan relating to LP-1's also applies to LP-2's in those Areas. LP-1 and LP-2 stations are primarily sources of Local Area Emergency EAS Messages. They will also be relaying National, State, and Weather Alerts.

PN (Participating National) = Most normal broadcasters and cable operators are designated as APN's. These sources are for delivering all levels of EAS to the general public.

NN (Non-Participating National) = Broadcasters who hold an ANN Authorization from the FCC to sign off the air during a National Emergency.

### B.) Other Definitions

The following are other terms used in the organization of the New Mexico EAS Plan.

STATE EOC = New Mexico State Emergency Operation Center in Santa Fe. Origination point of messages from the Governor.

CBA SATELLITE = The Christian Broadcasting Academy in Albuquerque which operates KLYT(FM) also operates a Ku band satellite network serving a number of New Mexico communities. KLYT(FM) has agreed to carry EAS material and activations for areas of the state where their satellite fed translator and broadcast stations are located.

SHERIFF / 911-CENTER = It is recommended that at least one 911-Center in each Area will have an EAS Encoder to send local alerts via the Sheriff's two-way radio or similar Public Safety communications system or by broadcast remote pick-up radio to the Area LP-1 station, and to all other broadcasters and cable operators that want to receive it directly.

NOAA (NOAA WEATHER RADIO) = Under the EAS, NOAA Weather Radio stations are encoding all of their alerts using the same coding as used for EAS Alerts. Broadcasters and cable operators can feed their EAS Decoders with the audio from any normal NOAA Weather Radio receiver, and their EAS Decoder will react just as it does with broadcaster EAS codes. It is recommended, but not required, that all broadcast stations and all participating cable operators monitor the relevant NOAA weather channel(s).

## B.) Other Definitions (Continued)

NUCLEAR PLANT / WIPP SITE / INDUSTRIAL PLANT = As part of the EAS, nuclear plants, and industrial plants with a potential for dangerous conditions, and the WIPP site will most likely have their own EAS Encoder broadcasting on a two-way radio channel. In this way they can warn area emergency managers directly of any potentially hazardous condition. Emergency Services agencies which monitor this channel with an EAS Decoder can be warned immediately and relay the message to every area broadcaster and cable operator. Further, if the Emergency Services EAS Decoder monitors area broadcasters and cable operators, it will confirm when those sources pass on the emergency message.

## C.) Primary and Secondary Delivery Plan

The task of this Plan was to determine a primary and secondary delivery method for each level of EAS alert. This goal was surpassed for many broadcasters and cable operators. For stations/operators electing to monitor only the two assigned sources, two paths for each alert are provided. Stations/operators adding optional sources will have additional paths on some alerts. Stations which monitor satellite fed KLYT translators or the KLYT satellite network directly may have three broadcast paths for all alerts. Consult the section of this Plan entitled, A Table of Monitoring Assignments, to determine the specific two mandated (broadcast) and optional sources (NOAA weather radio, local area EOCs, cable systems, etc) that each broadcaster and cable operator should monitor, and the request that all participants that can monitor the KLYT network do so.

## D.) Your Part in Completing the System

The New Mexico SECC sees the EAS as growing and evolving once the system is in place, especially at the local level. The basic EAS entry point for emergency agencies (i.e., the one EAS Encoder in each Area at a 911-Center sending codes to the Area LP-1 station) is only a starting point... an initial way for all applicable government agencies to have access into the system. Indeed, some Local Areas and large cities have already developed and continue to evolve and update more sophisticated Local EAS Plans, which are a part of this State Plan. In many cases, the County Sheriff will purchase his own EAS Encoder to alert local broadcasters and cable operators via his own Sheriff two-way radio channel. This is the ultimate goal for all of our New Mexico Counties. Standing in the way at the present time is the \$2000 price of an EAS Encoder. As less-expensive Encoders become available, and/or communities raise the money to buy an Encoder, we see more and more local county officials signaling their local broadcasters and cable operators directly, eliminating the long trip around through the city 911-Center and the Area LP-1 station. In reality, this is the way the EAS Aweb architecture was envisioned to work when the concept was proposed. When we reach this point, perhaps the LP-1 stations can then be relegated to a purely back-up role. To this end, local stations are encouraged to foster a relationship with their local County Sheriff and other local area officials, and to work on funding a Sheriff EAS Encoder. This will complete the final, and perhaps most important, spoke in the EAS wheel, since most EAS alerts are generated at the local level.

When this final link is completed, a County/Local Area EAS Plan should be written to detail the procedures to be followed. It can be modeled after this State Plan, and include references to it. Scripts to use at the County/Local Area level can be found in the AEAS Scripts and Formats section of this Plan. Your County/Local Area Plan should then be submitted to your LAECC Chair for inclusion in the State EAS Plan.

## V. EAS Header Code Information

### A.) EAS Header Code Analysis

An EAS Header Code contains the following elements, sent in the following sequence:

- ∃ [Preamble] ZCZC-ORG-EEE-PSSCCC+ TTTT-JJHHMM-LLLLLLLL-
- ∃ Attention Signal
- ∃ Aural, Visual, or Text Message
- ∃ [Preamble] NNNN

[Preamble] = (Clears the system) - Sent automatically by your Encoder.

ZCZC = (Start of ASCII Code) - Sent automatically by your Encoder.

ORG = (Originator Code) - Preset once by user, then sent automatically by your Encoder. See following Section (B.) for code you must use.

EEE = (Event Code) - Determined by user, each time an alert is sent. See following Section (C.) for the only codes to be used in New Mexico.

PSSCCC = (County-Location Code) - Determined by user, each time an alert is sent. See following Section (D.) for the assigned codes of all New Mexico counties.

TTTT = (Duration of Alert) - Determined by user, each time an alert is sent.

JJHHMM = (Date/Time-of-Day) - Sent automatically by your Encoder.

LLLLLLLL = (8-Character ID, Identifying the Broadcaster, Cable TV, Weather Service Office, Nuclear/Industrial Plant, WIPP site, or Civil Authority operating that Encoder.) Preset once by user, then sent automatically by your Encoder. See following Section (E.) for format to be followed by all users in constructing their AL-Code.

Attention Signal - (The familiar old two tones) -- Must be sent if aural, visual, or text message is sent.

[Preamble] = (Re-clears the system) - Sent automatically by your Encoder when you initiate the End-of-Message sequence.

NNNN = (End-of-Message Code) - Must be initiated manually at the end of every EAS Alert originated by all sources. A failure of the system will occur if this code is not sent to reset the decoders of all stations/operators that carried that alert.

### B.) New Mexico Originator Codes

Following are the only Originator Codes to be used by sources in New Mexico:

WXR - To be used by National Weather Service Offices.

CIV - To be used by Emergency Government, Sheriffs, and all other Civil Authorities.

EAS - To be used by all Broadcasters and Cable TV Operators.

C.) New Mexico Event Codes

Whether used under the authority of the State EAS Plan, or any of the County/Local Area EAS Plans, the following are the only Event Codes to be used in the State of New Mexico by anyone for any purpose. No codes can be added without FCC approval. County/Local Area EAS Plans which desire to use a code not on this list, should submit that code request to the SECC for FCC approval and subsequent addition to this list. This list will be maintained as a Master List for all Event Codes used in the State of New Mexico.

MANDATED FCC EVENT CODES

Emergency Action Notification	EAN	Emergency Action Termination ..	EAT
National Information Center ....	NIC	National Periodic Test .....	NPT
Required Monthly Test .....	RMT	Required Weekly Test .....	RWT
Tornado Watch .....	TOA	Tornado Warning .....	TOR
Severe Thunderstorm Watch ...	SVA	Severe Thunderstorm Warning	SVR
Severe Weather Statement .....	SVS	Special Weather Statement .....	SPS
Flash Flood Watch .....	FFA	Flash Flood Warning .....	FFW
Flash Flood Statement .....	FFS	Flood Watch .....	FLA
Flood Warning .....	FLW	Flood Statement .....	FLS
Winter Storm Watch .....	WSA	Winter Storm Warning .....	WSW
Blizzard Warning .....	BZW	High Wind Watch .....	HWA
High Wind Warning .....	HWW	Evacuation Immediate .....	EVI
Civil Emergency Message .....	CEM	Practice/Demo Warning .....	DMO
Administrative Message .....	ADR		

NEW MEXICO ADDITIONAL EVENT CODES PER FCC (pending FCC approval)

NOT approved by FCC at the time of issuance of this Plan

Avalanche Warning.....	AVW
Closed Circuit Test.....	CCT
Earthquake Warning.....	EQW
Fire Warning.....	FRW
Fog Warning.....	FOW
Gas Leak Emergency .....	GLE
Icy Road Warning .....	IRW
Industrial Plant Emergency .....	IPE
Law Enforcement Emergency.....	LEE
Local Area Advisory.....	LAE
Local Area Emergency.....	LAE
Marine Warning.....	MRW
Military Emergency.....	MLE
Nuclear Pwr Plant/WIPP Emerg=y.	NPE
Nuclear Pwr Plant/WIPP Test.....	NUT
Radiological Emergency.....	RDE
Railroad Emergency.....	RRE
School Closing Emergency.....	SCE
Shelter in Place Advisory.....	SIP
State Advisory.....	STA

Toxic Spill Emergency.....	TSE
Volcano Warning.....	VOW
Volcanic Ash Warning.....	VAW
911 Telephone Outage Warning.	TOE

New Mexico Event Codes (Continued)

D.) New Mexico County-Location Codes (APSSCCC≡)

The first digit (AP≡) can be used to indicate one-ninth of the county code it precedes, in the following pattern:

0 = Entire County

1 = NW	2 = NC	3 = NE
4 = WC	5 = C	6 = EC
7 = SW	8 = SC	9 = SE

The remaining 5 digits (ASSCCC≡) indicate the county, as listed below:

[These codes are **FIPS** (Federal Information Processing Codes)]

<u>County</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Code</u>
Bernalillo.....	35001	Harding.....	35021	Roosevelt.....	35041
Catron.....	35003	Hidalgo .....	35023	Sandoval .....	35043
Cháves .....	35005	Lea .....	35025	San Juan .....	35045
Cibola .....	35006	Lincoln .....	35027	San Miguel ...	35047
Colfax .....	35007	Los Alamos...	35028	Santa Fé .....	35049
Curry .....	35009	Luna .....	35029	Sierra .....	35051
DeBaca .....	35011	McKinley .....	35031	Socorro .....	35053
Doña Ana ...	35013	Mora .....	35033	Taos .....	35055
Eddy .....	35015	Otero .....	35035	Torrance .....	35057
Grant .....	35017	Quay .....	35037	Union .....	35059
Guadalupe ..	35019	Rio Arriba ....	35039	Valencia .....	35061
=====	==	=====	==	=====	==

**E.) New Mexico AL-Code≡ Formats**

This 8-character code is affixed to every EAS message originated or re-transmitted by every EAS Encoder. The code identifies the particular broadcaster, cable operator, Weather Service Office, nuclear/industrial plant/WIPP site, or civil authority operating that Encoder. AL-Code≡ ID=s must adhere to the following formats. No deviation from these formats is allowed, since using certain other characters would cause an error in the system.

**Broadcasters:**

Single Station: AKXXX(FM)	Three or more Stations: The call letters of one
Two Stations: AKXXXKYYY≡	of the stations is sufficient. All other stations
	sending the alert should keep a log of alerts
	sent, as should the ID=d station. (Per FCC)

**Cable TV:**

(FCC issued cable ID numbers) Every cable system has a unique FCC issued ID number.

**Weather Service Offices:**

Use the letter AK≡ followed by the Location Designator of the NOAA weather service office sending

the alert followed by A/NWS≡ (no spaces)

Example: AKABQ/NWS≡ for Albuquerque, AKELP/NWS≡ for El Paso.

**Civil Authorities:**

This code uses three components in constructing its 8-character code:

Portion of AL-Code≡      Source of Characters

- ⊘ First four characters = First four letters of name of jurisdiction (Name of County, City, etc.)
- ⊘ Next two characters = Abbreviation for type of jurisdiction: For County use ACO≡  
For City use ACY≡  
For Town use ATN≡  
For Village use AVL≡  
For Township use ATP≡  
For Municipality use AMY≡
- ⊘ Last two Characters = Abbreviation for type of agency: For Sheriff use ASH≡  
For Fire Dept. use AFD≡  
For Police Dept. use APD≡  
For Traffic Authority use ATA≡  
For Emergency Services use AES≡  
For Emergency Government use AEG≡  
For Emergency Management use AEM≡

Examples: Bernalillo County Sheriff = ABERNCOSH≡, City of Raton Police = ARATOCYPD  
Note: Military groups use: A.U.S.ARMY, A.U.S.NAVY≡, AAIRFORCE≡, A.U.S.M.C., U.S.C.G.≡

**Private Industry:**

Nuclear Plants: WIPP Site use AWIPPUCPT≡

Industrial Plants: Submit a logical code to the SECC for approval and inclusion in this Plan.

## VI. EAS Tests

The following requirements regarding both RWT=s and RMT=s apply to all cable operators and all broadcasters, APN≡, as well as ANN≡ stations. Even stations that have elected not to participate in local EAS alerts, must still rebroadcast their local RMT every month. There are two exceptions to these rules.

First, Class AD≡ FM and LPTV stations need not have an EAS Encoder. They must have an EAS Decoder. Thus, these stations are exempt from running the weekly digital code RWT test. However, they must retransmit monthly RMT tests as outlined below, minus the EAS Header Codes and Attention Signal.

In addition, LPTV stations must present all EAS information visually, just as all other TV stations must do. The second exception is for FM Translator and TV Translator stations, which are not required to have any EAS equipment.

### A.) Required Weekly Test (RWT)

1.) Transmission: All broadcasters and cable operators must transmit an RWT once each week at random days and times except for the week of the RMT test. 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.

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

### B.) Required Monthly Test (RMT)

1.) Transmission: RMT=s are to be initiated by LP-1 and LP-2 stations. During some months, the test will actually be initiated by the 911-Center or Emergency Operation Center associated with these stations in this State Plan. During the designated week for this test, all other broadcasters and cable operators are to wait for this test and then react as described in (4.) below. These tests shall always use the Event Code ARMT≡, never codes such as AState Test≡, or ALocal Area Test,≡ etc.

2.) Scheduling of RMT=s / Week and Time-of-Day:

- ⊖ RMT=s shall always occur during the first, full, Monday-thru-Sunday week of the month.
- ⊖ Time frame and origination of the RMT tests shall adhere to the following format:
- ⊖ **Location of originating sources outside the station initiating the test is optional and is suggested, not required.**

MONTH	TIME FRAME	STN.	ORIGINATING SOURCE
JANUARY	DAY / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	SP	STATION STAFF
FEBRUARY	NITE / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	SP	STATION STAFF
MARCH	DAY / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	SP	STATION STAFF
APRIL	NITE / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	SP	N. M. . STATE EOC
MAY	DAY / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	SP	STATION STAFF
JUNE	NITE / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	SP	STATION STAFF
JULY	DAY / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	SP	N. M. . STATE EOC
AUGUST	NITE / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	SP	STATION STAFF
SEPTEMBER	DAY / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	SP	STATION STAFF
OCTOBER	NITE / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	SP	STATION STAFF
NOVEMBER	DAY / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	SP	STATION STAFF
DECEMBER	NITE / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	SP	STATION STAFF

#### NOTES:

- ⊖ SP originations by the state Primary (KKOB) may replace 911 and EOC originations.
- ⊖ STATION STAFF = Station staff will determine the time when the test will be originated.
- ⊖ N. M. STATE EOC = The State EOC will send the RMT at its discretion. The state Primary station (KKOB) must then rebroadcast this test within 15 minutes of receiving it.

**B.) Required Monthly Test (RMT) [Continued]****3.) Scheduling of RMT=s / Recommended Time Constraints:**

LP stations, as well as 911-Centers and the State EOC, are requested to use judgment in the scheduling of times for RMT=s. Since all broadcasters and cable operators are required to rebroadcast this test within 15 minutes of receiving it, care should be taken to not put undue hardship on TV broadcasters in particular, when they are carrying their highest-revenue programming. On a daily basis, these periods would include all major newscasts: early morning, noon-time, evening, and late-evening. In addition, the times of major events are recommended to be avoided, such as: pre-planned Presidential speeches, hours of a major national or local news story carried outside of normal newscast hours, local and national election coverage, and major sporting events like World Series games and the SuperBowl.

Broadcasters and cable operators which have a complaint regarding the scheduling of RMT=s in their Area should make their concerns known to their Area Chair (see AThe New Mexico SECC≡ section in this Plan for names). If a satisfactory resolution is not reached at that level, the State EAS Chair should be contacted.

**4.) Reception / Re-transmission of RMT=s**

All broadcasters and cable operators receiving an RMT test must re-transmit this test within 15 minutes of receiving the test. [For Daytime-only stations receiving a night-time RMT, this test must be re-transmitted within 15 minutes of the Daytime-only station sign-on.] Transmission of this RMT test takes the place of the Required Weekly Test (RWT). Times should be logged for both the receipt and re-transmission of the RMT test. Broadcast and cable management should impress upon their staff that re-transmission of this test is not an option. It is an FCC violation to fail to re-transmit this test within 15 minutes of receiving it. The best policy may be to set your EAS unit for a 15-minute or shorter automatic countdown upon receiving an RMT. If the operator on duty does not send the test manually within that window, the box will do it for him when time runs out.

**C.) Time-Duration and County-Location Codes to be Used**

- ≡ TIME-DURATION used in the EAS Header Code for all EAS Tests shall be 30 minutes or longer.
- ≡ COUNTY-LOCATION codes used in the EAS Header Code for EAS Tests shall conform to these guidelines:

LP Stations: All tests, RWT and RMT, shall include the Location Code for all counties in that LP station's Local Area of responsibility. To determine the counties in their Local Area of responsibility, each LP station should consult the ABoundary Map of New Mexico EAS Local Areas≡, and/or the cover sheet for the AFCC Mapbook,≡ both found in the Appendix of this Plan. Under the new EAS Plan, some counties have been moved compared to the old EBS Plan. Please read carefully.

PN and NN Stations and Cable Operators: RMT tests shall be re-transmitted unchanged, except for the AL-Code≡. Thus, RMT=s will include all counties present in the original message. For the RWT originated each week by each PN and NN station, and each cable operator, the county-location code used shall be the county for the broadcaster's City of License, or cable operator's Community of License. Other counties in the station's/system's service area may be added at management discretion.

## VII. New Mexico EAS Scripts and Formats

### A.) Test Scripts and Formats

The following test scripts and formats shall be used by all New Mexico broadcasters, cable operators, and emergency agencies when originating EAS tests.

1.) RWT: No script is used for the RWT. Entire test takes 10.5 seconds. Format is as follows:

- ☒ Stop regular programming
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Header Code 3 times
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS EOM (End-of-Message Code) 3 times
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Resume normal programming (this is the so-called Asilent≡ test, which isn't silent at all!)

2.) RMT: Primary stations and emergency agencies originating this test should use the following format. All other broadcasters and cable operators will receive the test in this format, and must re-transmit it within 15 minutes in the same format. Do not create a new RMT -- relay the one you get! Format is as follows:

- ☒ Stop regular programming
- ☒ Optional Intro: AThis is a test of the (Area) New Mexico Emergency Alert System.≡
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Header Code 3 times [All sources must use Event Code ARMT≡ for this test.]
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Attention Signal (8 to 25 seconds) [the old EBS tones]
- ☒ Read Test Script: AThis is a test of the (Area) New Mexico Emergency Alert System.  
In the event of an emergency, this system would bring you important information. This test is now concluded.≡
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS EOM (End-of-Message Code) 3 times
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Resume normal programming

Timing Note: The script above can be read in 9-10 seconds. All other elements of the RMT (the Header Codes and an 8-second Attention Signal) take from 19-21 seconds to complete (that length depending on the number of county codes contained in the Header). The goal of writing this short script was to fit the entire test into a 30-second time period. LP stations and emergency agencies should make every attempt to complete this test within 30 seconds. Pre-recording the script at the length needed to achieve this goal would probably be helpful. Under no circumstances, however, may you record the Alert tones. They must be sent Alive.≡

Script Note: (Area) = LP=s: Use the name of your Local Area found in this Plan (such as ASoutheast≡, ANorthwest≡, etc) if you chose to originate an extra RMT for your Operational Area.

## B.) Real-Alert Activation Scripts and Formats

## 1.) STATE ACTIVATION

The State EOC shall transmit the following messages to all New Mexico broadcasters and cable operators via the State Primary station (KKOB). [**Send advisory just prior to actual emergency message.**]

Format is as follows:

- ☒ Send ACTIVATION SCRIPT-CUT 1:

AWe interrupt this program because of a State of New Mexico emergency.

Important information will follow.≡ (0:05)

- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Header Code three times [with Event Code: ASTA≡ (State Advisory)]
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Attention Signal (0:08)
- ☒ Send ACTIVATION SCRIPT-CUT 2:

AWe interrupt this program to activate the State of New Mexico Emergency Alert System, because of a statewide emergency. Important information will follow.≡ (0:15)

Until Governor is ready with emergency message, repeat FILL COPY SCRIPT:

AThis message is originating in the State of New Mexico Emergency Operation Center in Santa Fe. Normal broadcast programming has been interrupted to activate the State of New Mexico Emergency Alert System because of a statewide emergency. All New Mexico EAS stations are requested to stand-by for an announcement from the Governor of the State of New Mexico. Broadcast stations will be given a countdown prior to the Governor=s address. This is the State of New Mexico Emergency Alert System. Stay tuned for important information. (0:35) [**Also advise stations if the Governor will speak for more than two minutes.**]

[Send EOM (End Of Message Code) three times]

- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Header Code three times [with Event Code ASTA≡ (State Advisory)]
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Attention Signal (0:08)
- ☒ Send GOVERNOR=S INTRO SCRIPT:

When the Governor is ready with the emergency message, send COUNTDOWN SCRIPT:

AThree minutes to the Governor's address. This is the State of New Mexico Emergency Alert System. Stay tuned for important information. All broadcast stations and cable systems in the State of New Mexico should prepare to re-broadcast live the following emergency message. This is a countdown to an announcement from the Governor of the State of New Mexico. That message begins in 2 and 1/2 minutes.

The State of New Mexico Emergency Alert System has been activated due to a statewide emergency. Stay tuned for important information. All broadcast stations and cable systems in the State of New Mexico should prepare to re-broadcast live the following emergency message. This is a countdown to an announcement from the Governor of

the State of New Mexico. That message begins in 2 minutes.≡

Previous message repeats, ending, AThat message begins in 1 and 1/2 minutes.≡

Previous message repeats, ending, AThat message begins in 1 minute.≡

Previous message repeats, ending, AThat message begins in 30 seconds.≡

- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Header Code three times [with Event Code ASTE≡ (State Emergency)]
- ☒ one-second pause
- ☒ Send EAS Attention Signal (0:08)
- ☒ Send GOVERNOR=S INTRO SCRIPT:

AThe State of New Mexico Emergency Alert System has been activated due to a statewide emergency. Stay tuned for important information. This is the State of New Mexico Emergency Alert System. Following is an announcement from the Governor of the State of New Mexico. (0:15)

- ⊘ Governor gives live address NORMALLY NOT TO EXCEED 1 AND 1/2 MINUTE  
(Note: some EAS Decoders may automatically reset and cut him off if it is longer.)

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- ⊘ Following the Governor=s address, send TERMINATION SCRIPT:  
A This concludes EAS programming. All broadcast stations and cable systems may now resume normal operations.≡ (0:10)
- ⊘ one-second pause
- ⊘ Send EAS EOM (End-of-Message) Code three times
- ⊘ one-second pause

### 2.) LOCAL AREA ACTIVATION

Areas which have developed a specific Local Area EAS Plan (which is attached to this State EAS Plan) will have their own Activation Format presented in their Local Area Plan. The following is a suggested Local Area Activation Format for general use by Areas which have not developed a specific EAS Plan. Note that the length of the message must not exceed two minutes and normally should not exceed one and one-half minutes.

- ⊘ Stop regular programming
- ⊘ Optional Intro: A We interrupt our programming to activate the (Local Area) New Mexico Emergency Alert System. Important information will follow.≡ (0:05)
- ⊘ one-second pause
- ⊘ Send EAS Header Code 3 times (Use appropriate Event Code from list provided on page 8 of this Plan.)
- ⊘ one-second pause
- ⊘ Send EAS Attention Signal (8 to 25 seconds)
- ⊘ Activation Announcement: A We interrupt our regular programming to activate the (Local Area) New Mexico Emergency Alert System. At the request of (Emergency Agency), all EAS stations in (Local Area) New Mexico should re-broadcast the following (Type of Alert/Matches Event Code)  
Announcement.  
This is the (Local Area) New Mexico Emergency Alert System. Important information will follow.≡ (0:25)
- ⊘ Broadcast emergency message.
- ⊘ Termination Announcement: A This is the (Local Area) New Mexico Emergency Alert System. All (Local Area) New Mexico EAS stations are requested to re-broadcast the preceding announcement, which was issued by (Emergency Agency). We now resume normal programming.≡ (0:15)
- ⊘ one-second pause
- ⊘ Send EOM (End-of-Message) Code 3 times
- ⊘ one-second pause
- ⊘ Resume normal programming

## VIII. Guidance for Originators of EAS Alerts

### A.) Guidance for National Weather Service Personnel

NWS personnel should issue EAS Weather Alerts via the Weather Teletype, and on NOAA Weather Radio using the NOAA-SAME/EAS Codes. NWS procedures should be followed relating to the transmission of the SAME/EAS Codes, the 1050 Hz Alert Tone, and the reading of the weather bulletin script.

Considering that NOAA Weather Radio is being envisioned in the future as an All-Hazards Radio network, alerts for other than weather emergencies may soon be originated by NWS personnel. In the event that NWS personnel originate non-weather EAS Alerts, procedures found in this Plan (and its associated Local Area EAS Plans) regarding those alerts should be followed.

### B.) Guidance for Emergency Services Personnel

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is designed so that agencies with an emergency message need transmit that message only once, and it will be received by all area broadcasters and cable operators simultaneously.

The most accessible method to do this is via your Sheriff or Emergency Government two-way radio channel. In order to generate this EAS message for transmission to broadcasters and cable operators, a device called an EAS Encoder is needed. This unit is then fed to your two-way radio, over which it will be received by local broadcasters and cable operators and will then will automatically trigger their EAS Decoders to deliver your message.

At the present time, most counties have not yet purchased their own EAS Encoder. Counties without an EAS Encoder can still utilize the EAS System by routing their emergency alert requests through a local designated 911-Center. It is anticipated that there will eventually be one 911-Center in each EAS Local Area equipped with an EAS Encoder for alerting area broadcasters and cable operators. Get in touch with your Local Area Chair for procedures regarding contacting the Area 911-Center to originate alerts for your county. Once you get your own EAS Encoder, you will be able to alert your area broadcasters and cable operators directly.

**A WORD OF CAUTION:** Emergency Services agencies have acquired a valuable new tool in gaining direct access to all area broadcasters and cable operators via the EAS. However, if not used prudently, you put yourself in danger of losing this tool. Broadcasters and cable operators are expecting the EAS to be used only for life-threatening emergencies. Keep in mind two things. First, some broadcasters and cable operators have their EAS Decoders set on Automatic Mode. There is no one there to screen your message and decide if it should be aired. They are depending on you to only send an EAS Alert for a very serious emergency. The first time you trigger the system for a frivolous event, you will lose the confidence of your area broadcasters and cable operators. The second thing to remember is that broadcasters and cable operators participate in the local-level EAS on a voluntary basis. No one can force them to carry your EAS Alerts. Maintain a good relationship with your local broadcasters and cable operators, and they will come through for you in a crisis.

### C.) Guidance for Nuclear Plant, WIPP Site, and Industrial Plant Personnel

Nuclear Plants, the WIPP site, and certain Industrial Plants are the only non-governmental entities that have been given the authority to issue an EAS Alert. The caution given to Emergency Services agencies in section (B.) above should be reviewed by Nuclear and Industrial Plant personnel as well. EAS Alert Warnings should only be issued for truly significant population threatening emergencies. Issuing EAS Alerts for less-serious conditions could compromise the confidence of your local broadcasters and cable operators, all of whom are carrying your alerts on a voluntary basis.

## IX. Guidance for All Users in Programming their EAS Decoders in New Mexico

This section is provided to aid users of the EAS, primarily broadcasters and cable operators, in programming the Event Codes, County-Location Codes, and Modes of Operation into their EAS Decoder. This information can also be of value to Emergency Services and Nuclear/Industrial Plant personnel who are making use of the Decoder section in their EAS gear.

Each EAS Alert that you want to program your EAS gear to respond to will require that you tell it those three elements: which Event Code you want it to respond to, which County(s) that event should apply to, and what Mode of Operation you want it to respond in.

### A.) Modes of Operation

All EAS Decoders must be capable of at least Manual and Automatic Operation. Some manufacturers also offer a Semi-Automatic Mode.

Manual Operation: Your EAS gear will only notify you of any incoming EAS Alert that you have programmed it to respond to. Your operator must push a button to cause the Alert to be re-transmitted on your station/cable system.

Automatic Operation: This type of operation would normally be used with a Program Interrupt connection on the EAS Unit. Your on-air audio and/or video is Alooped through the EAS Unit so that the unit can interrupt the audio/video when necessary. In Automatic Operation, when the EAS Decoder receives an EAS Alert that you have programmed it to respond to, it immediately interrupts your programming to transmit the EAS Alert.

Semi-Automatic Operation: Under this mode of operation, when the EAS Decoder receives an EAS Alert that you have programmed it to respond to, it will begin a preset countdown to automatic interrupt. The idea is for your operator to run the EAS Alert on the air manually at his earliest convenience. If the Alert is not run by the time the preset countdown time expires, the EAS gear will take over and do it for your operator. The same could apply to a broadcast automation system, where the automation system should insert the received Alert in the next commercial break. If it fails to do that, the EAS gear will interrupt your programming to transmit the Alert at the end of the time-out.

You can program some models of EAS Encoders/Decoders to respond to different Alerts in different Modes, such as responding to all Weather Watches in Manual Mode, and all Weather Warnings in Automatic Mode. The Required Monthly Test (RMT), which must be re-transmitted within 15 minutes of receipt, could be programmed for Semi-Automatic Mode with a 15-minute countdown. This would give your operator the opportunity to run the RMT himself at a break in his show. However, if he forgets, the EAS gear would then do it for him to prevent you from committing an FCC Violation.

**Broadcasters using Unattended Operation must run their EAS gear in Automatic Mode.**

### B.) County-Location Codes to Use

There are certain events which you will receive for your County of License that you must program your EAS gear to respond to. A list of those events is shown on the next page. When programming your EAS gear for other optional EAS Alerts, you will want to include any other counties in your service area that you wish to provide Alerts to your listeners/viewers for. Again, each type of Alert can include whatever counties you wish to be alerted for. You can also tell your EAS gear to notify you in the Manual Mode of any EAS Alert received for your County of License. In this way you do not have to program all the events separately. You can then program separately the events you actually want it to take over the station/system for in the Automatic Mode.

**C.) Event Codes You Must Program Your EAS Decoder For**

The FCC requires that broadcasters and cable operators program their EAS Decoders for the following events:

AEAN≡ (National EAS Activation) = Must be re-transmitted immediately.

AEAT≡ (National EAS Termination) = Must be re-transmitted immediately.

ARMT≡ (Required Monthly Test) containing your County of License code =  
Must be re-transmitted within 15 minutes of receipt.

ARWT≡ (Required Weekly Test) containing your County of License code =  
This received test need only be logged. No re-broadcast.

**D.) Suggested Programming Sequence for Setting Up Your EAS Decoder**

The following is an example of the list of events that you might enter into your EAS Decoder:

EVENT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY CODE	OPERATION MODE
AEAN≡	National EAS Activation	Not Applicable	Automatic
AEAT≡	National EAS Termination	Not Applicable	Automatic
ANIC≡	National Info. Center	Not Applicable	Manual
ARMT≡	Required Monthly Test	Your County of License	Semi-Automatic/15-Min.
ARWT≡	Required Weekly Test	Your County of License	Manual (for logging)
ATOR≡	Tornado Warning	All Counties in your Area	Semi-Automatic / 5 Min.
AFFW≡	Flash Flood Warning	All Counties in your Area	Semi-Automatic / 5 Min.
ACEM≡	Civil Emergency Message	All Counties in your Area	Semi-Automatic / 5 Min.
ASTE≡	State Emergency	Entire State of N. M.	Automatic
ALAE≡	Local Area Emergency	All Counties in your Area	Automatic
AIPE≡	Industrial Plant Emergency *	All Counties in your Area	Automatic
ANPE≡	Nuclear Plant/WIPP Warn *	All Counties in your Area	Automatic
A-----≡	AAny Received Alert≡	All Counties in your Area	Manual

\* If applicable in your Area.

Some the above codes are not yet FCC approved as of the issuance of this Plan. Accordingly this is a suggested list of what you might enter into your EAS Decoder.

You may wish to enter additional codes for Automatic or Semi-Automatic handling as outlined in your local area plan. Please consider your coverage area and whether you are being monitored by other stations in making this decision.