



## State of Illinois

### Emergency Alert System State Plan

June 2006

And Revised 2010

Post this plan at each control point with the F.C.C. EAS Handbook

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## **Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to provide information relative to the implementation and operation of the Emergency Alert System within the State of Illinois. Consult Part 11 of the FCC rules for specific information about EAS regulations and requirements.

## **Introduction**

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) provides warning to the general public when emergencies occur that threaten the life or property of the residents of Illinois. The EAS is a co-operative system that relies on the participation of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), Illinois radio and television broadcasters, and the Illinois cable television operators. It provides specific procedures for the broadcast stations and cable television operators to disseminate *WARNINGS* to the general public in event of an emergency in part of or the entire State of Illinois. This EAS plan may be activated in response to imminent or ongoing threats to life and/or property. Such threats include but are not limited to toxic materials release, civil disturbance, wide area power outages, evacuation alerts, and severe weather.

Acceptance of or participation in this plan shall not be construed as a relinquishment of individual station program control or to prohibit an individual broadcast facility from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. "Re-Broadcast Authority" is given to all broadcast stations and cable operators relaying EAS emergency communications. The authority granted to individual broadcast facilities and cable television operators to manage and exercise discretion in the broadcast of EAS information and instructions is detailed in and supported by Part 11 of the F.C.C rules and regulations.

## **General Considerations**

Under this plan, Illinois has been divided into 11 local areas. Each of the 11 local areas has two or more *key* broadcast stations that will disseminate regional information during an emergency. All broadcast stations and cable operators in these local areas will monitor the assigned *key* broadcast stations for their area. These stations are identified as *Local Primary* (LP) 1, 2, or 3. In addition, all broadcast stations and cable operators are encouraged to monitor as many other sources of emergency information as they consider practical.

All broadcast stations and cable operators are also encouraged to monitor the National Weather Service (NWS) radio station in their area for weather alerts and Amber alerts. The Local Primary stations are not required to re-transmit weather bulletins nor will IEMA broadcast weather bulletins on the state emergency communications channel.

In order to improve the ability of emergency information to reach the public in a timely manner, EAS operations should be considered to be a "web" rather than a "chain". This means that broadcast stations and cable operators should rely on the LP-1 & LP-2 stations for state and national emergency information but local emergencies, such as developing weather conditions, should be

monitored directly by each broadcast station and cable system. An example of this is the Amber Alert System. Each broadcast station and cable operator can obtain Amber Alerts from the NWS weather radio.

## **General Operating Procedures**

Local Primary 1 (LP-1) and Local Primary 2 (LP-2) stations will monitor each other. In addition, LP-1 & LP-2 stations will monitor the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) radio network and the National Weather Service (NWS). When practical, both LP-1 & LP-2 should monitor WLS-AM or the National Public Radio (NPR) Primary Entry Point (PEP) for Presidential Alerts.

LP-1 & LP-2 stations should have their EAS filters set to immediately re-transmit any emergency message originating from IEMA that carries the Civil Emergency event code "CEM".

LP-1 & LP-2 stations are not required to re-transmit weather bulletins but are authorized to do so in accordance with individual station policies.

All other broadcast stations and cable operators will monitor the LP-1 & LP-2 stations. Monitoring the National Weather Service is not required but highly recommended.

All broadcast stations and cable operators are required to re-transmit any message using the code "EAN" (National Emergency). It is recommended, but not required, that they also re-transmit any message received from the LP-1 or LP-2 using the event code "CEM". Broadcast stations other than LP-1 or LP-2 may also choose, but are not required, to re-transmit weather bulletins from the National Weather Service.

## **Activation**

The Governor of the State of Illinois is the only official who may authorize activation of the State Wide Area Emergency Alert System. Any other officials must request and receive authorization for activation through the Governor. The code "CEM" will be used exclusively by IEMA.

The Illinois State EAS Plan will be activated using a dedicated EAS encoder located at the IEMA Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This center is linked to all LP stations via the IEMA statewide radio network on 45.44 MHz.

## **Local Plans**

This document details the state plan only. Each of the 11 areas of Illinois can develop local plans that relate to their particular part of the state. The local plans will concentrate on providing a means for authorized persons at the county or city level to reach the public quickly through broadcast or cable outlets in the event of a local emergency. Appendix E is a list of registered local plans with Internet links to the issuing agencies. Activation under local plans will use the code "LAE" exclusively.

## **Required Weekly Test**

Each broadcast station, cable operator, and IEMA will transmit the "header" tones and "end of message" tones as described in Part 11 of the F.C.C. Rules once per week. Radio and TV

broadcasters must send the Required Weekly Test (RWT) at random times and does not need to include a voice announcement.

### **Required Monthly Test**

IEMA will transmit a Required Monthly Test (RMT) on its statewide emergency radio network on the first Tuesday of the month in accordance with the following schedule:

January	10:15 am	July	10:15 am
February	12:15 am	August	12:15 am
March	10:15 am	September	10:15 am
April	12:15 am	October	12:15 am
May	10:15 am	November	10:15 am
June	12:15 am	December	12:15 am

All LP-1 & LP-2 stations are encouraged to re-transmit the RMT within 10 minutes of the time it is received from IEMA.

All other stations will re-transmit the RMT within 60 minutes of the time it is received from either the LP-1 or LP-2 stations.

The Required Monthly Test issued by the IEMA EOC will contain the following elements:

- 3 bursts of digital “RMT header” code
- A 10 second recorded message containing the following text:

“This station is participating in the required monthly test of the Illinois Emergency Alert System. This system was developed to provide information to the public during emergencies. This was a test”.

- 3 bursts of “end of message” tone

## **ACTUAL ALERT Activation Script and Format**

State Activation Procedures:

IEMA EOC will transmit the alert to all LP (1/2/3) stations via the IEMA Emergency Radio Network on 45.44 MHz.

The alert will contain the following elements:

- 3 bursts of digital “Civil Emergency Message” (CEM) code
- A recorded message less than 2 minutes in duration containing the following text:

“This is an activation of the State of Illinois Emergency Alert System. The Governor has activated the Emergency Alert System due to (nature of emergency).”

- 3 bursts of “end of message” code

**IMPORTANT:** The EAS system will store and forward a message of only 2 minutes or less in duration. Any messages longer than 2 minutes will be truncated.

## **National Public Radio Link**

At this time, there is no statewide link available to Illinois LP-1 and 2 stations for Presidential EAN activations. LP-1 and 2 stations are encouraged to arrange to monitor a NPR station that has install a NPR satellite cue connection to the NPR’s station’s EAS unit to facilitate EAN activation for their area. LP-1 and 2 stations that can successfully monitor WLS-AM may use that PEP station as a source of EAN activation.

## **AMBER Alert-Child Abductions**

A link for Child Abduction Alerts issued by the Illinois State Police (ISP) has been established between the ISP and the National Weather Service (NWS). Upon authorization of the ISP, the NWS will transmit an alert with the Child Alert Emergency header code “CAE” for all broadcast stations and cable operators to relay to the general public.

Appendix F is the alert procedure between the Illinois State Police and the National Weather Service.

## **EMNet**

EMnet is a dedicated PC terminal with software for alerts directed to an emergency alert manager. At this date this product is being rolled out to County EOCs, E911 centers and 19 LP stations. Long term concept is to include the EMNet as a component in local area plans.

## **Assistance/Area Chairpersons**

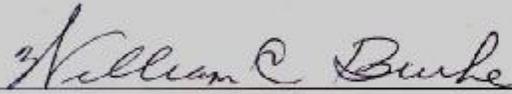
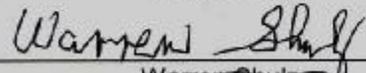
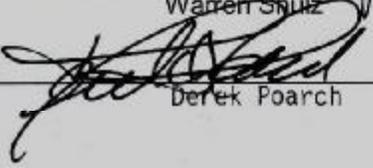
If you are experiencing monitor issues or need any assistance with regard to this plan or any other EAS issues, contact your local EAS chairperson.

<b>AREA</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>FAX</b>	<b>E-MAIL</b>
1	Springfield	Kerri Cawley	217-494-6507	217-528-5348	<a href="mailto:KerriCawley@neuhoffmedia.com">KerriCawley@neuhoffmedia.com</a>
2	Quincy	Jim Lawrence	217 228-6630	217 228-6670	<a href="mailto:jlawrence@wgem.com">jlawrence@wgem.com</a>
3	Peoria	Mark Hill	309 531-2592		<a href="mailto:mahill@ilstu.edu">mahill@ilstu.edu</a>
4	Rock Island	Jeffrey Konrad	309 721-5228	none	<a href="mailto:jeffreykonrad@gmail.com">jeffreykonrad@gmail.com</a>
5A	Rockford	Chuck Ingle	815 874-7861	815 874-2202	<a href="mailto:chuckingle@maverick-media.ws">chuckingle@maverick-media.ws</a>
5B	Ottawa	Mark Baker	815 224-2100	None	<a href="mailto:mbaker@theradiogroup.net">mbaker@theradiogroup.net</a>
6	Chicago	Michael Dinger	815 274-7395	773 279-2199	<a href="mailto:mdinger@nextmediagroup.net">mdinger@nextmediagroup.net</a>
7	Champaign	Ed Bond	217 351-5355	217 351-5385	<a href="mailto:edillini@aol.com">edillini@aol.com</a>
8	Olney	Mike Shipman	618 393-2156	None	<a href="mailto:mshipman@keybroadcasting.net">mshipman@keybroadcasting.net</a>
9	Marion	Jeff Oestreich	618-252-8661	None	<a href="mailto:jeff_astrike@hotmail.com">jeff_astrike@hotmail.com</a>
10	ST. Louis MO	Paul Grundhauser	314 444-3287	314 444-3287	<a href="mailto:pjgrundhauser@cbs.com">pjgrundhauser@cbs.com</a>

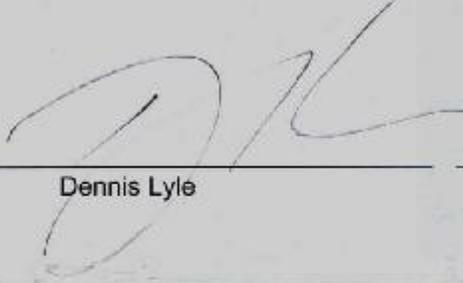
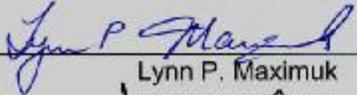
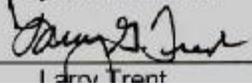
## **State Chairpersons & Liaisons**

TITLE	CITY	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
State Chairman	Chicago	Wayne Miller	309 637-3700	309 673-9538	<a href="mailto:wrm@jmpradio.com">wrm@jmpradio.com</a>
Cable TV Liaison	Chicago	Ben Pflederer	630-461-8007	815-226-0793	<a href="mailto:bpflederer@aol.com">bpflederer@aol.com</a>
FCC Liaison (local)	Chicago	Jim Roop	847 813-4664	847 298-5403	<a href="mailto:Jim.roop@fcc.gov">Jim.roop@fcc.gov</a>
FCC Liaison (D.C.)	Washington	Bonnie Gay	202 418-1228	None	<a href="mailto:bonnie.gay@fcc.gov">bonnie.gay@fcc.gov</a>
NOAA NWS	Romeoville	Jim Allsopp	815 834-0600	None	<a href="mailto:Jim.allsopp@noaa.gov">Jim.allsopp@noaa.gov</a>
NOAA/NWS	Lincoln	Chris Miller	217-732-4029x726	None	<a href="mailto:Chris.Miller@noaa.gov">Chris.Miller@noaa.gov</a>
IEMA	Springfield	Jerry Miller	217-557-2736	None	<a href="mailto:JMILLER@illinois.gov">JMILLER@illinois.gov</a>

**APPROVED:**

 _____ William Burke	<u>9/08/06</u> Date	Director, Illinois Emergency Management Agency
 _____ Warren Shultz	<u>10/23/06</u> Date	Chairperson, Illinois SECC
 _____ Derek Poarch	<u>11/8/07</u> Date	Public Safety Homeland Security Bureau FCC

**CONCUR:**

 _____ Dennis Lyle	<u>9/20/06</u> Date	President & CEO Illinois Broadcasters Association
 _____ Lynn P. Maximuk	<u>10/13/06</u> Date	National Weather Service Central Regional Director
 _____ Larry Trent	<u>8/17/06</u> Date	Illinois State Police

# Illinois State EAS Plan

## Appendices

# Appendix A - State EAS Local Areas



## Appendix B – Local Primary Stations and Counties Served

Illinois EAS monitor assignments are divided into 11 operational areas. 34 Local Program stations make-up the backbone for the relay of Federal and State alerts initiated from the IEMA EOC. The counties served by these 34 LP stations are listed below. Broadcast stations and cable head-ends are required to monitor 2 LP stations to fulfill the F.C.C. EAS monitor requirement. If you experience difficulty receiving a monitor assignment, please contact your local area chairperson.

LP Station Monitor Assignments (by order of preference):

1. IEMA Emergency Radio Network
2. Primary Entry Point
  - a. WLS-AM (890 KHz)
  - b. NPR station with satellite cue channel feed to EAS decoder
3. National Weather Service Radio
4. Another LP-1, LP-2, or LP-3 station

### AREA 1 - Springfield

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	NPR - PEP
WDBR-FM 103.7 MHz	WNNS-FM 98.7 MHz		WUIS-FM 91.9 MHz
WTAX-AM 1240 KHz	WMAY-AM 970 KHz		
<b><u>11 Counties Served:</u></b>			
Cass, Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Logan, Menard, Morgan, Montgomery, Macoupin, Sangamon, Scott			

### Area 2 - Quincy

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	NPR – PEP
WGEM-FM 105.1 MHz	WGCA-FM 88.5 MHz	WGEM-TV Ch. DT10	WIUM-FM 91.3 MHz
<b><u>6 Counties Served:</u></b>			
Adams, Brown, Hancock, McDonough, Pike, Schuyler			

### Area 3 - Peoria

LP-1	LP-1	LP-2	NPR - PEP
WSWT-FM 106.9 MHz	WPBG-FM 93.3 MHz	WCIC-FM-91.5	WCBU-FM 89.9
WIRL-AM 1290 KHz	WMBD-AM 1470 KHz		
WXCL-FM 104.9 MHz	WDQX-FM 102.3 MHz		
<b><u>7 Counties Served:</u></b>			
Fulton, Livingston, Mason, McLean, Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford			

### Area 4 – Quad Cities

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	NPR - PEP
WKBF-AM 1270 KHz	KUUL-FM 101.3 MHz		WVIK-FM 90.3 MHz
<b><u>7 Counties Served:</u></b>			
Henry, Henderson, Knox, Mercer, Rock Island, Stark, Warren			

### Area 5A – Rockford

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	PEP –WLS-AM-890
WZOK-FM 97.5 MHz	WXRX-FM 104.9 MHz		
WROK-AM 1440 KHz	WNTA-AM 1330 KHz		
<b><u>9 Counties Served:</u></b>			
Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, Winnebago			

### Area 5B – Ottawa

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	PEP-WLS-AM-890
WAJK-FM 99.3 MHz	WBBM-AM 780 KHz		
<b><u>4 Counties Served:</u></b>			
Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam			

### Area 6 – Chicago

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	NPR - PEP
WGN-AM 720 KHz	WBBM-AM 780 KHz		WBEZ-FM 91.5 MHz
<b><u>9 Counties Served:</u></b>			
Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Will			

### Area 7 – Champaign

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	NPR - PEP
WHMS-FM 97.5 MHz	WSOY-FM 102.9 MHz		WILL-FM-90.9
WDWS-AM 1400 KHz			

**12 Counties Served:**  
Champaign, Coles, Douglas, DeWitt, Edgar, Ford, Iroquois, Moultrie, Macon, Piatt, Shelby, Vermillion

### Area 8 – Olney

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	NPR - PEP
WSEI-FM 92.9 MHz	WCRC-FM 95.7 MHz	WMIX-FM 94.1 MHz	WUSI-FM 90.3 MHz
WYNG-FM 94.9 MHz			

**14 Counties Served:**  
Clark, Cumberland, Crawford, Clay, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jefferson, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash, Wayne

### Area 9 – Marion

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	NPR - PEP
WDDD-FM-107.3 MHz	WSIU-FM 91.9 MHz	WQRL-FM 106.3MHz	WSIU-FM 91.9 MHz

**15 Counties Served:**  
Alexander, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Harden, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union, White, Williamson

### Area 10 – St. Louis, Missouri

LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	NPR - PEP
KMOX-AM 1120 KHz	WSDZ-AM 1260 KHz		KWNU-FM 90.7 MHz

**NOTE:** KMOX Does Not forward the IEMA RMT. KMOX transmits the RMT at random times. KMOX Does hand forward any EAS message.

**8 Counties Served:**  
**Bond, Clinton, Jersey, Madison, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair, Washington**

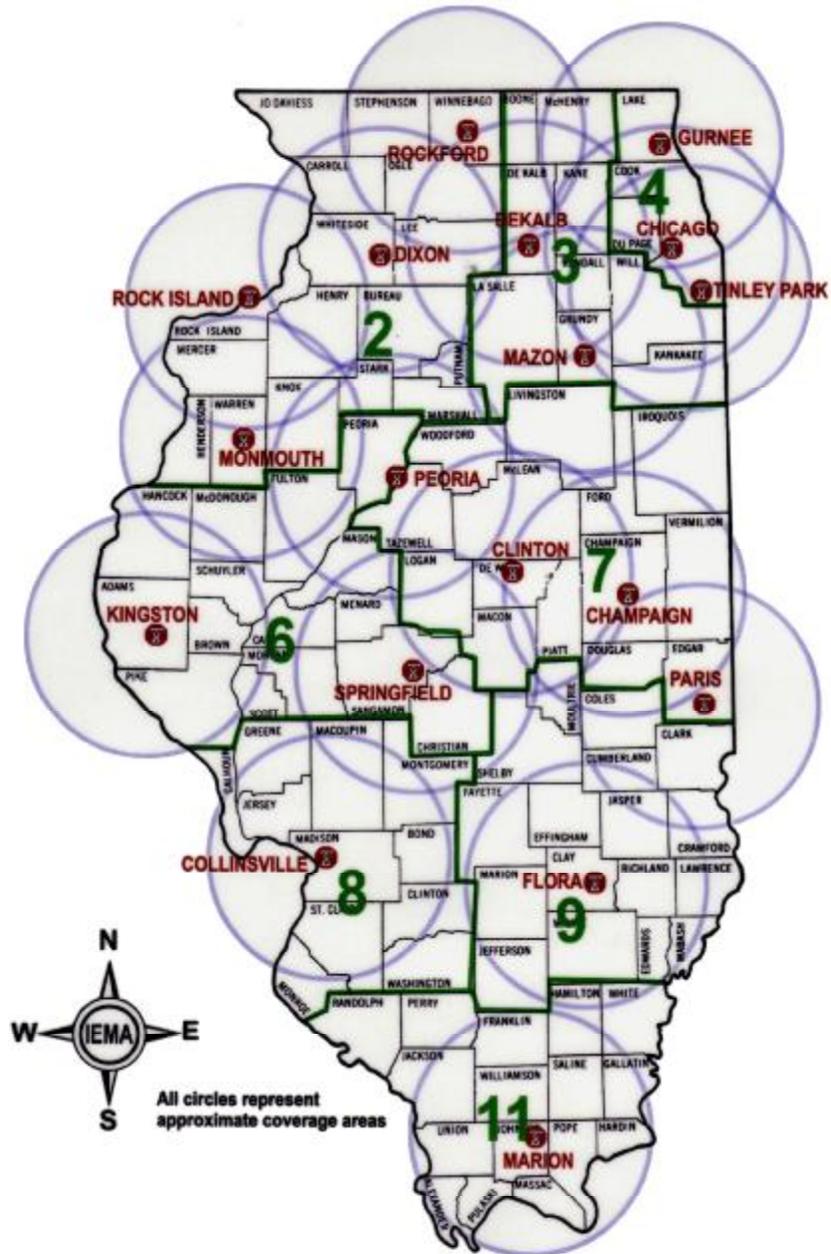
## Appendix C – NOAA Weather Radio Coverage in Illinois

<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Site Name</u>	<u>Site Location</u>	<u>Frequency (MHZ)</u>	<u>Transmitter Power (Watts)</u>
KZZ65	Bloomington	Bloomington Hts.	162.525	300
WXJ76	Champaign	Champaign	162.550	1000
KXI42	Chester	Chester	162.450	300
KWO39	Chicago	Willis Tower	162.550	300
KXI86	Crescent City	Crescent City	162.500	300
KXI41	Crystal Lake	Crystal Lake	162.500	300
WNG536	DeKalb	DeKalb	162.550	100
KZZ55	Dixon	Dixon	162.525	300
KZZ56	Freeport	Eleroy	162.450	300
KZZ66	Galesburg	Galesburg	162.400	300
KXI79	Hillsboro	Hillsboro	162.425	300
WXM90	Jacksonville	Jacksonville	162.525	300
KXI70	Jerseyville	Jerseyville	162.450	300
KZZ58	Kankakee	Aroma Park	162.525	300
KZZ81	Lockport	Downers Grove	162.425	1000
WXJ92	Macomb	Macomb	162.500	1000
WXM49	Marion	Goreville	162.425	1000
KXI52	McLeansboro	McLeansboro	162.400	300
KXI48	Newton	Newton	162.450	1000
WXK24	Odell	Odell	162.450	1000
KXI47	Paris	Paris	162.525	300
WXJ71	Peoria	East Peoria	162.475	1000
KXI58	Plano	Yorkville	162.400	300
WXL22	Princeton	Tiskilwa	162.425	300
WXJ73	Quad Cities	Rock Island	162.550	1000
KZZ57	Rockford	Latham Park	162.475	1000
KXI49	Salem	Salem	162.475	1000
KXI46	Shelbyville	Shelbyville	162.400	300
WXJ75	Springfield	Springfield	162.400	1000

### **HazCollect**

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) signed an agreement to relay alerts from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regarding threats of a national, state, or regional level. NWR stations will begin participating in a second new program, called **HazCollect**. This program enables your local Emergency Management personnel to log onto a FEMA website and send a secured EAS message over your local NWR station. These alerts may use any of the 13 non-weather local emergency EAS Codes adopted by the FCC. To ensure receiving these alerts, the Illinois SECC recommends that all broadcaster and cable operators monitor NWR. Information on HazCollect can be found at: [www.weather.gov/os/hazcollect](http://www.weather.gov/os/hazcollect)

# Appendix D - IEMA Emergency Radio Network (45.44 MHz)



## Appendix E – Local Plans

Chicago E911 Local Plan	No Website Available
DuPage County	<a href="http://www.co.dupage.il.us/oem/index.cfm">http://www.co.dupage.il.us/oem/index.cfm</a>
Kane County	<a href="http://www.kcoem.org/">http://www.kcoem.org/</a>
Will County	<a href="http://willcountyema.org">http://willcountyema.org</a>
Sangamon County	<a href="http://www.co.sangamon.il.us">http://www.co.sangamon.il.us</a>
McLean County	
Champaign County	
Other plans may exist but they are not registered with IEMA or the SECC	

## Appendix F – ISP & NWS Amber Alert Procedure's

### Illinois State Police and the National Weather Service Amber Alert Procedure's

#### **Illinois State Police (ISP):**

- The ISP will review all AMBER Alert requests from Illinois law enforcement agencies before disseminating the information.
- The ISP will review AMBER Alerts provided by surrounding states and initiate these alerts in those instances deemed appropriate.
- The ISP will determine the appropriate regions of the state for the distribution of the alert.
- The ISP will distribute pertinent AMBER information in an electronic format.  
(The current practice includes the use of the EAS system followed by a facsimile)
- The ISP will provide a termination message once the AMBER investigation has been resolved.

#### **National Weather Service (NWS):**

- The NWS will install and maintain a software terminal at the ISP communications center.
- The NWS agrees to broadcast any AMBER alerts to NOAA weather radio transmitters in areas specified by ISP.
- The NWS will transmit the scripted AMBER alert as a data product similar to a tornado warning.
- The NWS has agreed to do a closed circuit monthly AMBER alert test from ISP to NWS.
- The NWS will use either a concatenated voice, or at their option, a live announcement (manual broadcast).
- The NWS will only accept AMBER alerts cleared by the ISP. All other requests will be forwarded to the ISP.
- The NWS will not transmit the 1050-hertz warning alarm tone for AMBER alerts.

**Illinois Broadcaster Association (IBA)/State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC):**

- In order to avoid duplication of alerts, it is recommended that designated LP1 and LP2 stations refrain from initiating Amber alerts. The exception to that rule is that if an LP1 or LP2 station receives a blast fax of an Amber alert from ISP but does not receive an Amber alert on its NWS weather radio, the LP station should then initiate the Amber alert 30 minutes after receiving the blast fax.
- LP1 and 2 stations may elect to retransmit alerts received from NWS immediately if they wish because a retransmission will be ignored by stations that have already received the alert via NWS. Stations that are not monitoring NWS will receive the retransmission as a first alert.

## Appendix G– Additional Websites For additional Information:

### FCC Websites

FCC EAS home page: <http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/services/eas/>  
Cable handbook: [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-278628A2.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-278628A2.pdf)  
TV Handbook: [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-278628A5.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-278628A5.pdf)  
Radio Handbook: [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-278628A3.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-278628A3.pdf)  
Link to State Plans: <http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/services/eas/chairs.html>  
Disaster Support: <http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/broadcastersupport.html>

### State of Illinois Website:

Illinois IEMA Site: [http://ilba.org/downloads/FCC/Illinois\\_EAS\\_Plan.pdf](http://ilba.org/downloads/FCC/Illinois_EAS_Plan.pdf)

### Manufactures web sites:

SAGE ENDEC: <http://www.broadcast.harris.com/support/sage/>  
TFT: <http://www.tftinc.com/>  
Burke: <http://www.burk.com/Support/Eas.aspx>  
Gorman-Redlich: <http://www.gorman-redlich.com/features.html>  
HollyAnne: <http://www.eas-hollyanne.com/broadcast.htm>  
Multi-Technical Svc: <http://www.mts-comm.com/>  
Trilithic: <http://www.trilithic.com/Emergency%20Alert%20Systems>  
AM Loop Antenna: <http://www.belar.com/AM/lp1.htm>

**National Weather Service:** <http://www.nws.noaa.gov>

### Broadcast Sites:

Illinois Broadcast Assoc. <http://www.ilba.org>  
Broadcast link Site: <http://www.thebdr.net/>  
Station listings: <http://radio-locator.com>

### **Amber Alert Related Sites:**

Illinois State Police Amber Alert: <http://www.amberillinois.org>  
California Alert Site: <http://www.amberalert.gov>  
National Amber Site: <http://www.missingkids.com>

**END**

