

APPENDIX D: AUTHORIZED SOURCES FOR ACTIVATING THE EAS

The following agencies are the only sources authorized to declare and/or originate any EAS Alert containing the title “WARNING”, “ACTIVATION”, or “EMERGENCY”. Wisconsin broadcasters and cable operators shall not originate a “WARNING”, “ACTIVATION”, or “EMERGENCY” unless they are doing so at the direction of an authorized agency as outlined in a Local Area EAS Plan. It is the intention of the Wisconsin SECC to encourage the development of these Local Area EAS Plans.

WEATHER EAS ALERTS

All Weather EAS Alerts are to be originated by the National Weather Service, using legacy EAS via NOAA Weather Radio, and/or using CAP via the FEMA EAS CAP feed.

LOCAL EAS ALERTS using legacy EAS

All local emergencies other than weather alerts, shall be declared only by the Local County Sheriff Department, or County Emergency Management agency. If another agency is to be used in declaring local emergencies, it shall be listed in the appropriate Local Area EAS Plan.

LOCAL EAS ALERTS using FEMA CAP Feed

All Federal, State and Local agencies in the U.S. desiring to issue public EAS CAP alerts using the FEMA IPAWS platform must acquire CAP origination software, must apply to FEMA to be issued a Collaborative Operating Group (COG) and must complete FEMA’s process to be granted Public Alerting Authority. In acknowledging that FEMA’s current process could change, we have chosen not to detail it here. However, FEMA maintains an excellent web page that details all the steps required to be granted IPAWS Public Alerting Authority.

See: <http://www.fema.gov/alerting-authorities>