

## 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 which does not have its own EAS Encoder to originate the EAS Alert itself.

This restriction applies to all Event Codes containing the title “WARNING”, “ACTIVATION”, or “EMERGENCY”, including the “TORNADO WARNING” Code “TOR”. If a broadcaster or cable operator feels he has sighted a tornado, this information can be broadcast to the audience as an observation of the station staff, but should not be transmitted as a “TORNADO WARNING” with the “TOR” Code. When the official word from the National Weather Service or other authorized agency is received, their “TORNADO WARNING” Alert with the “TOR” Code can be relayed by the broadcaster or cable operator. If the broadcaster or cable operator sighting a possible tornado wants to issue an independent EAS alert, the “Severe Weather Statement” Code of “SVS” can be used.

### WEATHER EAS ALERTS

Normally, all Weather EAS Alerts are to be originated by the National Weather Service, via NOAA Weather Radio. These Alerts are also disseminated via the NOAA Weather Wire Service (NWWS), the AP News Wire service, and the Emergency Managers Weather Information Network (EMWIN). An EAS Weather Alert received via one of these networks 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. However, in the absence of a “WARNING” issued by the National Weather Service, a broadcaster or cable operator may originate an EAS Weather Alert “WARNING” at the direction of his Local County Sheriff Department or County Emergency Management agency. These agencies have authority to issue a weather warning for their county. If another agency is to be used in declaring weather alerts, it shall be listed in the appropriate Local Area Plan.

### CIVIL-EMERGENCY EAS ALERTS

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.