

Tab 19 - A
Specific Instructions for Wired Cable Systems - Comcast
8.28.17

National Emergency Alert System

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is used by alerting authorities to send detailed warnings via broadcast, cable, satellite, and wireline radio and television channels.

Participation

Pursuant to FCC_CFR_Title47_Part11 and FCC Cable Systems Handbook, all subject cable operators are required to participate in the national level EAS and must have the ability to interrupt service on each channel with aural and visual messaging. Participating National (PN) cable operators will carry the Presidential message.

In addition, all subject cable operators must transmit a Required Weekly Test (RWT), and once a month, must re-transmit the Required Monthly Test (RMT) within 60 minutes of receiving on their EAS decoder. These actions are required of all subject cable operators, regardless of their PN EAS status.

Common Alerting Protocol

Pursuant to FCC_CFR_Title47_Part11.56, the FCC requires EAS participants to “accept” Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) based alerts as of June, 2012.

The CAP is a digital format for exchanging emergency alerts that allows a consistent alert message to be disseminated simultaneously over many different communications systems.

Monitoring Requirements

All subject cable operator participants must monitor multiple EAS sources as outlined in the state plans.

1. Local Primary 1 (LP) or State Relay Network (SRN)
2. LP2 or SRN
3. FEMA/ IPAWS CAP via internet
4. WA State/ AlertSense (also known as MyStateUSA.com) and
5. Other available broadcast station or source

Required Weekly Test (RWT) Transmission – All broadcasters and subject cable operators must transmit an RWT once each week, at random excluding the week a Required Monthly Test. There are no time or day restrictions. This is a 10.5 second test consisting of the EAS Header and End-of-Message codes.

Required Weekly Test (RWT) Reception – All broadcasters and subject cable operators receiving a RWT from one of their monitored sources must log receipt of this test in accordance with current FCC regulations.

Required Monthly Test (RMT) Transmission – RMT’s are to be initiated by the State of Washington in accordance with the RMT schedule. Broadcasters and cable operators are to wait for this test and react as described below. These tests shall always use the event code “RMT”.

Required Monthly Test Reception and Re-Transmission – All broadcasters and subject cable operators receiving an RMT must re-transmit this test within 60 minutes of receipt. Logs should be kept for receipt and re-transmission of the RMT, including duplicates. A transmission of an RMT may take place of the RWT.

EAS State and Local Activation Message:

For Analog and Digital (CAP) EAS Activations:

1. EAS encoder forwards message based on header information (Analog) or Web Based software disseminates the activation of EAS using CAP (Digital)
 - Note: Configurations have been previously verified to ensure compliance with FCC rules
2. Recorded audio message is also provided (if applicable)

The customer will experience a full page force tune/channel override to the EAS Details Channel which will display the initiating alert. The force tune will remain in effect for the duration of the event (under 2 minutes typically) then return to programming.

Note: If the Service Provider has selectable override agreements in place in Washington State those requirements will be taken into consideration.

Washington State EAS Operating Areas/ FIPS Matrix:

TAB 19 – A W. WA FIPS- EAS Matrix (Comcast) 8.28.17			
AREA NAME	COUNTIES	EAS FIPS CODE	SERVICE PROVIDERS
CENTRAL PUGET SOUND	ISLAND SNOHOMISH KITSAP KING PIERCE E.JEFFERSON	53029 53061 53035 53033 53053 53031	COMCAST CABLE (not in E. Jeff)
CLALLAM	EAST PORTION CLALLAM	53009	
CLALLAM (WEST)	WEST PORTION CLALLAM	53009	
COASTAL	W. JEFFERSON GRAYS HARBOR PACIFIC	53031 53027 53049	COMCAST CABLE (not in W. Jeff)
COWLITZ WAHKIAKUM	COWLITZ WAHKIAKUM	53015 53069	COMCAST CABLE (not in Wahkiakum)
LEWIS	LEWIS	53041	COMCAST CABLE
MASON-THURSTON	MASON THURSTON	53045 53067	COMCAST CABLE
NORTHERN PUGET SOUND	WHATCOM SAN JUAN SKAGIT	53073 53055 53057	COMCAST CABLE (not in San Juan)
PORTLAND/ VANCOUVER	CLARK	53011	COMCAST CABLE
IMPORTANT – The EAS administration for Clark County is handled by the Oregon SECC. For information go to – www.sbe76.org			

