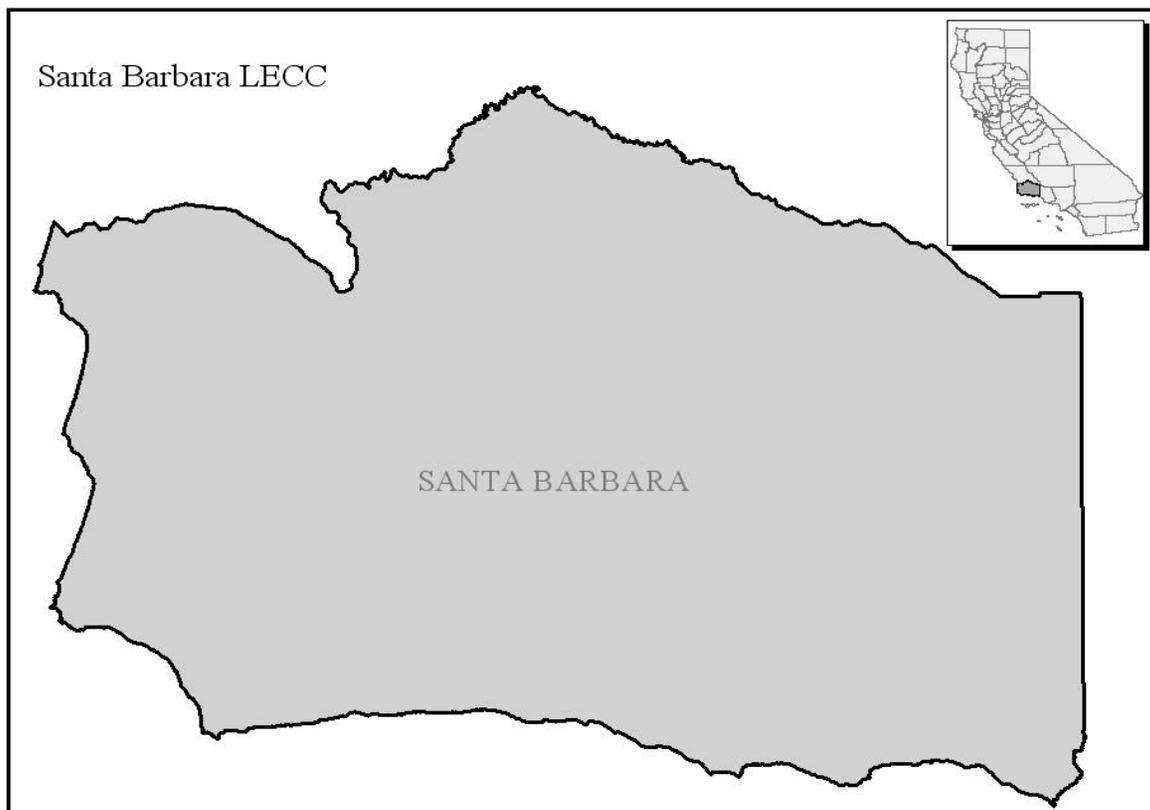


SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Emergency Alert System Plan



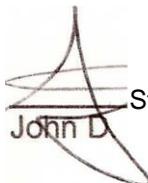
Revision: December 2012
FCC Approved May 28, 1998

Santa Barbara County Emergency Alert System Plan

The Santa Barbara Local Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan portion of the California State Emergency Alert System Plan consists of this Approval Page and Communications Operations Orders CA-SB Numbered 1 through 8. This Plan is governed by part 11 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which is included by reference.

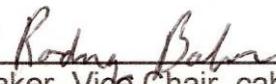
Under this Plan broadcast and CATV stations in Santa Barbara County will rebroadcast, using EAS equipment specified by the FCC, selected messages originated by the National Weather Service (NWS) and the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Services (OEM), who are accountable for their content.

APPROVALS



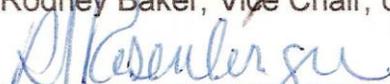
John D. Strahler, Chair SBC LECC

98-3-27, 1998
date



Rodney Baker, Vice Chair, cable TV

98-3-27, 1998
date



Andy Rosenberger, Vice Chair, SBC OES

98/3/27, 1998
date



Todd Morris, Meteorologist in Charge, NWS

4/3, 1998
date



James Gabbert, Chair, CA ECC

5/16, 1998
date



Federal Communications Commission

5/28, 1998
date

COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER CA-SB NUMBER 1 Monitor Assignments

1.1 The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) shall operate a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved Emergency Alert System (EAS) encoder on 463.600 MHz. The OEM will originate local requests for activation of the EAS. They may relay California state messages as received by any means including the state relay system (CLERS), and any other emergency information source the Director of the OEM deems appropriate.

1.2 The Local Primary (LP) 1 station is KVYB (FM) 103.3 MHz, which monitors:

KLOX	162.400 MHz	National Weather Service Oxnard
OEM	453.600 MHz	Local Activation
CAP	see 1.6	Other Activation
KFI (AM)	640 KHz	Los Angeles (for PEP*)
KHAY	100.7 MHz	Ventura (adjacent county LP1)
KCLU	88.3 MHz	[optional] National Public Radio PEP*

1.3 LP2 North is KXFM (FM) 99.1 MHz, which monitors:

KLOX	162.400 MHz	National Weather Service Oxnard
KVYB	103.3 MHz	Santa Barbara LP1
OEM	453.600 MHz	Local Activation
CAP	see 1.6	Other Activation
KKJG	98.1 MHz	San Luis Obispo (adjacent county LP1)

1.4 LP2 South is KTYD (FM) 99.9 MHz, which monitors:

KLOX	162.400 MHz	National Weather Service Oxnard
KVYB	103.3 MHz	Santa Barbara LP1
OEM	453.600 MHz	Local Activation
CAP	see 1.6	Other Activation
KNX (AM)	1070 KHz	Los Angeles (for PEP*)

1.5 All other participants in the Santa Barbara County EAS Plan (all Broadcast radio and television stations, Cable TV control points (CATV), and others subject to the requirements of FCC Rules section 11) shall monitor all of the following:

- a. LP1
- b. LP2 North or LP2 South
- c. CAP see 1.6

1.6 Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) monitoring refers to a system used by CAP EAS devices to poll an Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Open Platform for Emergency Alerts (IPAWS OPEN) aggregator for EAS messages, using a secure Internet (or alternate) connection. This shall include at least the aggregation site operated by the Federal Emergency Management

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Agency (FEMA) as specified by the FCC (OASIS). California State and Santa Barbara County aggregation sites shall be included if available and approved by FEMA and the FCC. See also 1.7.

- 1.7 The CAP standard has provision to associate audio, video, pictures or graphics with messages to deliver more and better information to the public. The IPAWS OPEN aggregators will not relay actual computer audio, video, or graphic files within messages that CAP EAS devices receive. When a CAP EAS device polls a CAP message from the aggregator, that message may include a link or reference to computer files on a separate FEMA and FCC approved secure server. The receiving CAP EAS device will automatically seek the referenced files, and compile a complete message using the CAP data and the files. The Text to Speech (TTS) feature of CAP EAS devices may serve as a backup mechanism in case an expected audio file cannot be located. TTS audio is derived from the text word description in the CAP message.

* National EAS Primary Entry Point (PEP) program relay station.

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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER CA-SB NUMBER 2
Event and FIPS (location) codes**

In addition to the Event Codes that the Federal Communications Commission requires be carried under their Rules section 11, the following Event Codes, if applicable to the Santa Barbara County Local Area, will be carried as specified by all participants in the Santa Barbara County EAS Plan.

2.1 All participants in the Santa Barbara County EAS Plan will carry, in this order of priority, with not more than fifteen minutes delay, EAS messages with these Event Codes:

- EVI Evacuation Immediate (Civil Warning)
- CEM Civil Emergency Message
- TOR Tornado Warning
- TSW Tsunami Warning
- SPW Shelter in Place Warning
- FFW Flash Flood Warning
- SVR Severe Thunderstorm Warning
- HUW Hurricane Warning

2.2 Voluntary Recommendations: Any Event Code which is approved by the Federal Communications Commission and is of importance to the audience. The LP1 station will carry local CAE (AMBER) alerts for the benefit of other stations, which may choose to relay.

2.3 Event Codes which shall NOT be relayed are:

- ADM Administrative Message
- DMO Practice/Demonstration Warning
- RWT Required Weekly Test.

2.4 Tests shall be conducted as specified by the FCC and Communications Operations Order CA-SB number 6.

2.5 FIPS (location) codes for the Santa Barbara (SB) County Local Area are:

	<u>Generally:</u>	<u>Civil:</u>	<u>Weather Service:</u>
006083	Santa Barbara	All of SB County	All of SB County
106083	Northwest	Guadalupe	
206083	North Central	Santa Maria	
306083	Northeast	Cuyama	Cuyama Valley
406083	West Central	Vandenberg	Central Coast
506083	Central	Buellton, Solvang	Santa Ynez Valley
606083	East Central	Los Padres Forest	SB Mountains
706083	Southwest	Lompoc	
806083	South Central	SB city, Goleta, Gaviota	South Coast
906083	Southeast	Carpinteria	

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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER CA-SB NUMBER 3
National Weather Service**

- 3.1 All National Weather Service WARNING messages and EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED messages will be transmitted over the National Weather Radio (KLOX/NWS), Oxnard, on 162.400 MHz. The transmitter is located at Broadcast Peak, Santa Barbara, vertical polarization.
- 3.2 LP1 and LP2 stations are required to monitor KLOX/NWS. All stations and CATV control points are urged to also monitor a KLOX/NWS transmitter.
- 3.3 The KLOX/NWS transmitter format for Alert Requests is:
- a. The digital header repeated three times;
 - b. The NOR receiver alert tone;
 - c. The EBS attention signal;
 - d. The audio message;
 - e. The digital EOM repeated three times.
- 3.4 While no verbal message can ever exceed 120 seconds due to the recording limitation of EAS decoders, the National Weather Service is aware that broadcast stations will be more likely to respond to Alert requests if messages are kept as short as possible. The Local Emergency Communications Committee recommends that all audio messages for EAS Activation requests should ideally run no longer than 45 seconds.
- 3.5 If the KLOX/NWS transmitter is off the air, the NWS Oxnard Office will contact (telephone or other method) the LP stations in the following order: LP1, LP2 South, LP2 North. See Communications Operations Order CA-SB Number 8 (confidential) for contact telephone numbers and security codes.
- 3.6 NWS Emergency Procedure (KLOX/NWS transmitter inoperable):
- a. The NWS representative will identify as _____, meteorologist with the National Weather Service, Oxnard, and give Verification Code _____ (see Communications Operations Order CA-SB Number 8). If the station is unable to verify this, the NWS callback number is (805) 988-6618.
 - b. The meteorologist will supply the information needed to encode the EAS header, including: Event Code, such as FFW, duration, such as two hours, and FIPS (location) codes, such as 806083 for the south coast of Santa Barbara County (as defined in Communications Operations Order CA-SB Number 2.5).

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- c. The LP station will record the message immediately. The station should ask for an audio level check prior to recording. The words, "level, level, level, level, level" should be spoken at the same level the meteorologist will use during the message.

- d. The station will give the meteorologist notice that they are ready to begin recording. The message should be preceded with a countdown. When the recording starts, the meteorologist will begin the message as follows:

" 5 -4 -3 -2 -1. This is the National Weather Service Office serving Santa Barbara County. We are requesting activation by all broadcasters of the Emergency Alert System for a (nature of the request).

MESSAGE TEXT (120 seconds MAXIMUM)

This concludes this Emergency Alert System message from the National Weather Service."

Note: The meteorologist should remain silent at the end of the message until the person doing the recording comes back on the line. If there is a problem with the recording, or the meteorologist deems it necessary, repeat the recording process.

- e. The station will program their EAS encoder and transmit the message as soon as practical.
- 3.7: Once a month, NWS will call the hot line telephone numbers for the LP stations listed in this Plan COO CA-SB number 8 to verify that the numbers are correct. If a hot line number fails to work, NWS will contact the LECC Chair, or a vice-chair, to obtain a valid number.

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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER CA-SB NUMBER 4
How to activate and transmit a local broadcast
FOR BROADCAST AND CATV**

4.1 EAS message relay from codes decoded from EAS Decoders:

- a. Messages with National Event Codes specified in FCC Rules section 11 shall be relayed without delay.
- b. If the Event Code coincides with any of the mandatory codes shown on Communications Operations Order CA-SB Number 2.1, and the FIPS (location) code(s) include your Local Area, then you will relay the alert as soon as possible, and in no case with more than fifteen (15) minutes delay, using the posted instructions for your EAS Encoder.
- c. You may relay any other Event Code received, except those specified in 2.3, at your discretion, with the understanding that emergency alert information declines rapidly in value to the public as seconds pass by.

4.2 Requests for activation of the EAS received via a telephone call to your hot line number or other communication should be first verified by NWS Oxnard or the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Services. See COO CA-SB number 7 for contact information. If it is clear that the request is legitimate and you agree to activate the EAS, then:

- a. Verify that the request to activate the EAS is from the National Weather Service, a Santa Barbara county or city government agency, the Federal or California State government, a government official from an adjacent Operational Area (county), or other responsible agency, such as a utility provider.
- b. Ask the requester for the information needed to encode the EAS header, including: Event Code, such as Civil Emergency Message (CEM) or Shelter in Place Warning (SPW); activation duration, such as 60 minutes; and FIPS (location) codes, such as 506083 for the Santa Ynez Valley (as defined in Communications Operations Order CA-SB Number 2.5).
- c. Transfer requestor to a studio capable of recording the EAS voice message. Start recording. Ask the requestor to recite their contact information, including call back telephone number, FULL NAME, TITLE, and AGENCY. Set level on recorder based on sound recorded during this validation, or from a subsequent level check.
- d. The station will give the requestor notice that they are ready to begin recording their prepared script, which must be in the format below. The message should be preceded with a countdown:

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5 -4 -3 -2 -1. This is (name, title) of (name of agency requesting activation). We are requesting activation by all broadcasters of the Emergency Alert System for a (nature of the request).

MESSAGE TEXT (120 seconds MAXIMUM)

This concludes this Emergency Alert System message from (name of requesting agency).

Note: The requestor should remain silent at the end of the message until the person doing the recording comes back on the line.

- e. Inform caller if retake is needed or if the recording is acceptable.
- f. Program EAS Encoder as described in posted instructions to activate with a locally recorded announcement. Cue up the recorded message.
- g. Halt current program on the air as soon as possible.
- h. Activate EAS Encoder digital bursts. Play recorded message. Activate EAS End of Message (EOM) digital bursts.
- i. Resume normal broadcasting. Announce essential warning information as often as necessary for the duration of the warning. The suggested interval is 5 to 10 minutes.
- j. Log the alert in your station's records. EAS broadcasts which have been originated by a Broadcast of CATV station should be reported to the FCC in Washington, DC in accordance with FCC Rules part 11.

4.3 All news and program personnel should be trained both as to the means and need to place EAS alert requests on the air without delay.

4.4 On-air personnel shall not ad-lib, interpret, abbreviate or alter any EAS test or EAS alert request message.

4.5 Tests or alerts may not be set to music, sung, or receive enhancement or alteration by means of echo, delay, or other types of signal processing or production which could alter the meaning or immediacy of the message.

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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER CA-SB NUMBER 5
Office of Emergency Management Activation**

Local governments, the US Forest Service, Vandenberg Air Force Base, the University of California, utility providers, and other agencies shall coordinate their requests to activate the EAS through the Director of the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) or his designated representative whenever possible. The OEM shall be responsible for the activation.

The person requesting activation of the EAS must have the warning message written in the format prescribed below in 5.2.c. The requestor should be prepared to voice announce the message.

5.1 If and only if the County OEM EAS encoder or 453.600 MHz voice transmitter is inoperable, then the OEM will telephone the LP stations in order: LP1, LP2 South, LP2 North. Alternately, OEM may contact the National Weather Service to activate using the “all hazards” capability of NWS. See Communications Operations Order CA-SB Number 4.2 for procedures and Number 8 for hotline numbers.

5.2 Office of Emergency Management procedure to activate the EAS through their EAS encoder and 453.600 MHz transmission system:

- a. The person requesting activation of the EAS will identify as Name/Title and name of agency. The OEM will verify the validity of the request using any means available, then determine the information needed to encode the EAS header, including: Event Code, such as Civil Emergency Message (CEM), Shelter in Place (SPW) or Evacuate Immediate (EVI); activation duration, such as 30 minutes; and FIPS (location) codes, such as 506083 for the Santa Ynez Valley (as defined in Communications Operations Order CA-SB Number 2.5).
- b. Program the EAS encoder as described in posted instructions to activate with a local voice or telephone announcement. Prepare to record the voice message.
- c. The requestor must have the message scripted in the form below. The OEM may record the requestor directly into the EAS encoder, or the OEM representative can voice the message. The message should be preceded with a countdown to allow the OEM to start the EAS encoder recording at an appropriate time:

5 -4 -3 -2 -1. This is (name, title) of the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (or other agency). We are requesting activation by all broadcasters of the Emergency Alert System for a (nature of the request).

**Santa Barbara County (CA) EAS PLAN
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MESSAGE TEXT (120 seconds MAXIMUM)

This concludes this Emergency Alert System message from the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (or other agency).

Note: The person voicing the message should remain silent at the end of the message to prevent unwanted sounds on the recording.

d. Stop the EAS recorder immediately after the out-cue. If there is a problem with the recording, repeat the recording process.

e. As soon as the encoded EAS message is ready, activate the EAS encoder to transmit the digital header bursts, recorded message, and digital End of Message bursts on the 453.600 MHz transmitter.

5.3: The person requesting EAS activation should enter the warning message text into the IPAWS CAP system before EAS activation. Television and CATV companies may use this to generate text for viewing by the hearing impaired.

**Santa Barbara County (CA) EAS PLAN
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COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER CA-SB NUMBER 6

Tests

The coordinated Required Monthly Test (Event Code RMT) within the Santa Barbara County Local Area must be carried by all broadcast stations and CATV firms as specified by the Federal Communications Commission Rules Part 11 (FCC). The RMT may be carried simultaneously with the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) origination as monitored on 453.600 MHz, or with the originating LP station, or delayed by no more than the time specified by the FCC.

6.1 The Required Monthly Test for the Santa Barbara County Local Area will be conducted as follows:

Daytime: First Tuesday of odd-numbered months at 10:50 a.m.

Nighttime: First Tuesday of even-numbered months at 4:50 a.m.

6.2 The Required Monthly Test (RMT) will originate from the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Emergency Communications Center or an alternate OEM control point, or by the LP1 should the OEM make prior arrangements.

6.3 RMT text:

"This is an FCC Required Monthly Test of the Emergency Alert System. Many broadcasters have agreed to deliver information during an emergency that will help you understand what is happening and what you need to do. When you hear a real alert, you should immediately tune to one of these radio or TV stations. This concludes this test of the Emergency Alert System."

6.4 The National Weather Service (NOAA) may conduct an annual coordinated tsunami communications test, using the RMT event code. The LECC must be notified of the precise date and time of this test at least forty days prior, to allow time to notify participants of the details. This coordinated tsunami test shall replace the RMT referenced above for the calendar month of the tsunami test.

6.5 The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Services may conduct closed circuit tests of the EAS equipment on the County EAS channel, 453.600 MHz, using the DMO or RWT event codes. These tests may originate from any of the OEM control points.

6.6 All EAS participants shall conduct additional tests as specified by the FCC.

**Santa Barbara County (CA) EAS PLAN
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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER CA-SB NUMBER 7
Local Emergency Communications Committee (LECC)**

The Santa Barbara Local Emergency Communications Committee (LECC) consists of all radio and television broadcasters and Cable Television operators (CATV) serving Santa Barbara County, government agencies, who are represented by the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM), and other entities who may have occasion to warn the public of impending life threats, such as utility providers.

Chair

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Santa Barbara Office of Emergency Services

Duty Officer (24 hour emergency contact)
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