

Oregon State-Level Activation Procedures

1. ACTIVATION

The Oregon State EAS Plan is activated by a request from authorized officials to the State's EAS Primary sources (SP). The SP sources are KOPB-TV Portland , KOPB-FM in Portland, and KOAC-AM Corvallis. KOPB-TV Portland will relay all state and national alerts over their expansive state system of FM stations and translators, and TV stations and translators. They will hand off all alerts KWAX-FM stations and translators and KSYS-TV stations and translators. Relay stations and operating frequencies are listed in Tab 3 of this Oregon State EAS Plan.

2. EMERGENCIES REQUIRING EAS ACTIVATION.

A. When a severe weather WATCH or weather WARNING is issued by NOAA/NWS, broadcast stations and local or state authorities may activate the EAS system.

B. When a statewide emergency exists, the Governor, a designated official, or the Director, Oregon Emergency Management or designee will determine whether or not to request activation of the Oregon State EAS Plan through the SP sources. Activation will take place via telephone connection, direct radio link, or any other means of communications between authorities and the state SP sources at the time.

C. Some industrial or non government entities may also initiate an EAS alert either through the state SP sources, or through the local authorities as provided in the local area plans.

3. PROCEDURES

A. Load the digital encoder with the emergency message. Program the header code for the type of emergency and location codes. (See Tab 12 for event codes and Tab 13 for location codes)

B. Use the microphone on the EAS encoder and record the audio portion of the alert. **THIS AUDIO PORTION CANNOT EXCEED TWO MINUTES IN LENGTH!** Select the two-tone attention signal if needed. Check to be sure that everything is correct.

C. Send the message to the SP stations, KOPB-TV and KOPB-FM via radio link provided or other communications link available.

D. If you cannot use the EAS digital encoder, initiate the alert directly by phone call the SP stations KOPB-TV and KOPB-FM, and request activation of the state EAS system. Use the authentication procedures provided in this Tab of the Oregon State EAS system.

E. Use the following format when requesting EAS activation when not using the digital EAS encoder.

1. "This is _(name - title)____of _(jurisdiction)_____with a request to activate the Oregon State EAS. I authenticate as follows: _____.

2. Give a summary of the situation (describe the nature of the emergency.)

3. Give instructions or message to the public.

4. Actions being taken by state and/or local authorities.

F. Keep the telephone line open for additional information or instructions to the SP station control operators.

G. Issue the EAS Termination when the emergency has concluded.

4. TESTS.

A. Broadcast stations are required to test the EAS system. Each station must transmit a weekly (RWT) test once each week at random times, and one test a month is to be originated either at the state level, the local level, the weather service, or at the LP-1 stations, and are to be re-transmitted by all broadcast stations and cable systems. This monthly test will replace the RWT for that week. The schedule for these tests will be found in Tab 18 of this Oregon State EAS Plan. These test schedules will be changed from time to time by the SECC, and new schedules will be provided to be included in this plan.

B. Oregon Emergency Management will conduct weekly tests of their digital EAS equipment to insure that it is operational at all times. The event code DMO will be used for all OEM weekly tests. This will allow the inclusion of the audio portions of the test messages to insure that all operators are trained in their preparation. These tests will be logged by the state SP stations and not relayed. Only the scheduled monthly tests will use the RMT event code, which will cause the test to be automatically sent to every broadcast station and cable system throughout the state.

C. Explanation of the word random as stated in the rules:

1. Once per week is interpreted as once within each seven-day period without any consideration of a calendar Sunday through Saturday week.
2. Random times means that the test should not be aired at the exact same time each time a test is aired.
3. Random days mean that the test should not be performed on the same day of the week each seven-day period.

Therefore to be totally compliant with the rules that specify random days and times in each seven-day period, the minimum number of days between each test is six days.