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Public Information Statement 24-54
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
300 PM EDT Tue Jul 30 2024

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 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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From: Douglas C. Young, Chief
 Digital and Graphical Information Support Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments through September 16, 2024 on a proposal to implement Partial County Alerting (PCA) via NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) and the Emergency Alert System for Hennepin County, Minnesota

Through September 16, 2024, the NWS is soliciting comments on a proposal to implement Partial County Alerting (PCA) via NWR and EAS for Hennepin County, Minnesota.

NWS disseminates weather warnings via NWR and EAS. While NWS warnings have become more refined in areal extent, these warnings have traditionally been conveyed via NWR and EAS on a whole-county basis. However, NWS has the capability to disseminate these warnings via NWR and EAS for areal sections of counties, referred to as county partitions. In the most urgent emergency situations with power and other widespread communications outages, the NWR network and the EAS are durable systems providing the public with continuous emergency information updates.

A need has been identified to better refine the ways people receive accurate, actionable and localized alert messaging. For several years, NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Twin Cities has conferred with emergency managers, state and local government officials, and broadcasters serving Hennepin County on a proposal to implement PCA for six partial county zones.

A comprehensive description of the proposal is provided online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/mpx/HennepinPCA>

The following warnings would be issued using PCA:

- Dust Storm Warning
- Flash Flood Warning
- Severe Thunderstorm Warning
- Snow Squall Warning
- Tornado Warning

Feedback on the proposal to implement PCA for Hennepin County is welcomed through Monday, September 16, 2024. Please send any questions or comments to:

Todd Krause
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
WFO Twin Cities
nws.twincities@noaa.gov

A comprehensive description on PCA and the expansion of PCA is provided online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/pca>

General comments or questions on the national PCA initiative may be directed to:

Tim Schott
Meteorologist, NWS Dissemination Services
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timothy.schott@noaa.gov

National Public Information Statements are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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