



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 17-922

Released: September 22, 2017

ETRS FILING DATES FOR EAS PARTICIPANTS AFFECTED BY HURRICANES HARVEY, IRMA, OR MARIA EXTENDED TO MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2017

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will conduct a nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on September 27, 2017, at 2:20 PM EDT.¹ All EAS Participants are required to participate and to report test results in the EAS Test Reporting System (ETRS).² Specifically, on or before 11:59 p.m., September 27, 2017, EAS Participants must submit corrections to ETRS Form One, and must file “day of test” information in ETRS Form Two.³ By November 13, 2017, EAS Participants must file detailed test results in ETRS Form Three regarding whether they received and/or retransmitted the EAS message.⁴

The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB) is mindful that the storm surge, high winds and flooding associated with Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria (2017 Hurricanes) caused or may cause significant damage to broadcasters, cable television service providers and other EAS Participants in Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as in portions of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas, which may affect their ability to participate in the Nationwide EAS Test or submit the ETRS filings required on September 27.⁵ Accordingly, for those EAS Participants affected by the 2017 Hurricanes, PSHSB extends the September 27, 2017 deadline for filing corrections to Form One to November 13, 2017, the date that Form Three is due, and also allows such EAS Participants to file Form Two at the same time as Form Three. Affected EAS Participants taking advantage of this extension should describe their particular circumstances in Form Three.⁶ For unaffected EAS Participants, the previously announced deadlines remain in effect.

¹ See *Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Announces Nationwide Test of the Emergency Alert System on September 27, 2017, Opens the EAS Test Reporting System for 2017 Filings, and Releases EAS Operating Handbook*, PS Docket No. 15-94, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 5732 (PSHSB 2017).

² 47 CFR §§ 11.61(a) (Nationwide EAS Test participation and reporting requirements), 11.2(d) (EAS Participants).

³ See 47 CFR § 11.61(a)(3)(iv)(B) (EAS Test “day of test” filing requirements); *Review of the Emergency Alert System et al.*, Sixth Report and Order, 30 FCC Rcd 6520, 6532, 6533, para. 27 (2015) (30-day correction period).

⁴ EAS Participants are required to file detailed post-test data within 45 days following a nationwide EAS test. 47 CFR § 11.61(a)(3)(iv)(C). See *Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Provides Information on Implementation of EAS Test Reporting System*, PS Docket No. 15-94, Public Notice, 31 FCC Rcd 3682, 3684-92 (PSHSB 2016) (describing Forms One, Two, and Three).

⁵ See <https://www.fcc.gov/irma>; <https://www.fcc.gov/harvey> (FCC Communications Status Reports that recorded broadcast and other outages caused by the 2017 Hurricanes).

⁶ Form Three asks whether an EAS Participant received or transmitted the EAS test message and provides text boxes to include clarifying information.

For further information, please contact Maureen McCarthy, Attorney Advisor, Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, at (202) 418-0011 or maureen.mccarthy@fcc.gov.

-FCC-