



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission  
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DA 21-378

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**PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU ANNOUNCES  
COMMENT AND REPLY COMMENT DATES FOR THE NOTICE OF PROPOSED  
RULEMAKING AND NOTICE OF INQUIRY ON EAS AND WEA IMPROVEMENT**

**PS Docket Nos. 15-94 and 15-91**

**NPRM Comments Due: April 20, 2021**  
**NPRM Reply Comments Due: May 4, 2021**

**NOI Comments Due: May 14, 2021**  
**NOI Reply Comments Due: June 14, 2021**

On March 17, 2021, the Federal Communications Commission adopted a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Notice of Inquiry (NPRM and NOI)* seeking comment on proposed rules and an inquiry to improve the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts System (WEA), as directed by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021.<sup>1</sup> The *NPRM* proposes rules that would ensure that mobile devices cannot opt-out of receiving WEA alerts from the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, adopt additional requirements for State Emergency Communications Committees and State EAS Plans, establish a false alert reporting system for certain government entities, and require the repeating of certain EAS messages. The *NOI* seeks comment on the feasibility of updating EAS to enable or improve alerts to consumers provided through the Internet, including from streaming services. The *NPRM and NOI* set deadlines for filing comments and reply comments for the *NPRM* at 21 and 35 days, respectively, and for the *NOI* at 45 and 75 days, respectively, after publication of a summary of each in the Federal Register.<sup>2</sup>

On March 30, 2021, the Office of the Federal Register published a summary of the *NPRM and NOI*, including the associated comment and reply comment dates.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, *NPRM* comments and reply comments must be filed on or before April 20, 2021 and May 4, 2021, respectively, and *NOI* comments and reply comments must be filed on or before May 14, 2021 and June 14, 2021, respectively. The *NPRM and NOI* contains the comment filing instructions.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Amendment of Part 11 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the Emergency Alert System; Wireless Emergency Alerts*, PS Docket Nos. 15-94 and 15-91, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Notice of Inquiry, FCC 21-36 (March 17, 2021) (*NPRM and NOI*); National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, Pub. L. 116-283, 134 Stat. 3388, § 9201 (NDAA21).

<sup>2</sup> *NPRM and NOI* at 1.

<sup>3</sup> 86 FR 16565 (March 30, 2021).

<sup>4</sup> *NPRM and NOI* at 29-30, paras. 72-76.

For further information on the *NPRM and NOI*, contact Chris Fedeli, Attorney Advisor, Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, (202) 418-1514 or via e-mail at [Christopher.Fedeli@fcc.gov](mailto:Christopher.Fedeli@fcc.gov).

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