



NEWS FROM THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

FCC to Re-Examine Emergency Alert System

Agency Seeks Comment on Ways to Build a More Effective and Efficient Alerting System

WASHINGTON, August 7, 2025—Today, the Federal Communications Commission voted to launch a rulemaking for a ground-up re-examination of the national alert and warning systems, including the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA). This action will explore whether fundamental changes to these systems could make them more effective, efficient, and better able to serve the public’s needs.

The United States maintains national capabilities that provide the President and other government authorities with the ability to send emergency alerts to the public. These capabilities include EAS, which provides emergency alerts to the public via radio, television, satellite, and cable systems, and WEA, which provides emergency alerts to supported mobile devices. With underlying frameworks that are 31 and 13 years old, respectively, the time is right to explore if structural changes to these systems are needed, with an eye towards making sure the FCC is leveraging the latest technology to save lives.

Specifically, the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will:

- Seek comment on the objectives for effective alert and warning systems.
- Explore which entities need to be able to send alerts to fully accomplish these objectives and how these needs should be addressed in the design of alerting systems.
- Consider the alert transmission capabilities that a national public alert and warning system must have to achieve its objectives, including the need for resilience, geographic targeting, and security.
- Ask whether EAS and WEA are meeting the needs and expectations of both the public and alerting authorities, and if not, whether redesign or targeted changes would allow EAS and WEA to fully reach their potential.
- Examine both the types of information and distribution methods needed to effectively convey information to the public through EAS and WEA.

Action by the Commission August 7, 2025 by Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 25-50).
Chairman Carr, Commissioners Gomez and Trusty approving and issuing separate statements.

PS Docket No. 25-224

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