NOTIFICATION AND WARNING

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annex is to describe the process for the dissemination of warning information to response agencies/organizations and the general public throughout Summit County in the event of an emergency.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. Local print, broadcast media and various social media outlets will be relied upon to assist in the dissemination of warning to the general public (refer to Tab 1 – Media List, Tab 4 – Emergency Alert System Activation Guides and Tab 6 – Emergency Cable Interrupt Activation Guides).

2. Refer to Tab 2 – Siren Activation Recommendations/Location Map for locations of sirens in Summit County. The warning sirens cannot be simultaneously activated.

3. Weather alert radios are in place in numerous homes, healthcare facilities, schools, government facilities, places of worship and businesses throughout Summit County.

4. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) equipment is in place in Summit County (refer to Tab 4 – Emergency Alert System Activation Guides).

5. Reverse Alert-Emergency Telephone Notification System is established in Summit County (refer to Tab 5 – Reverse Alert – Emergency Telephone Notification System Activation Guides).

6. Operational telephones, pagers, Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS), Wireless Emergency Notification System and radio communications will be utilized to notify public officials, Emergency Operating Center (EOC) Staff and emergency personnel.
B. Assumptions

1. Existing forms of warning will require augmentation in order to provide sufficient warning to the public. Example: EAS, cable interrupt and weather alert radio.

2. The use of mobile public address systems and/or door-to-door notification by emergency response personnel will be required when a quick onset (i.e. hazardous materials spill) emergency occurs necessitating an evacuation.

3. Warning sirens, radio broadcasts, social media and public address systems may be used to provide warning to schools, nursing homes, major industries, institutions and places of public assembly.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Receipt of Warnings/Notifications

1. The Summit County Sheriff’s Office (SCSO) is the warning point for the National Warning System (NAWAS).

2. The Summit County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA) and the SCSO are the warning points for the Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS).

B. Dissemination of Warnings/Notifications to Response Agencies

1. The SCSO will notify:

   a. SCEMA Director and/or Staff

2. The SCEMA Director and/or Staff may notify representatives of:

   a. County Executive

   b. City of Akron

   c. Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) Watch Office

   d. Summit County Emergency Management Executive Committee (EMEC) and/or Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

   e. As needed from the following groups:

      i. American Red Cross of Summit, Portage and Medina Counties
C. Dissemination of Warning/Notifications to the Public

The public may be notified of major emergencies by the following, including but not limited to:

1. Activation of outdoor siren system(s) (where applicable).

2. Local broadcasts and print media through:
   a. EAS (refer to Tab 4 – Emergency Alert System Activation Guides)
   b. Cable Interrupt (refer to Tab 6 – Emergency Cable Interrupt Activation Guides)


5. Door-to-door notification by emergency services personnel.

6. Mobile public address systems may be employed in neighborhood-to-neighborhood notifications.

7. Warning and notification of hearing impaired/functional needs persons or non-English speaking persons will be accomplished by public officials at the local and county levels by the following means:
   a. Door-to-door or mobile public address notification by emergency services personnel.
   b. Special foreign language broadcast in conjunction with standard pre-scripted text over the EAS.
   c. Pre-scripted text appealing to local officials and area residents to assist in the notification of the hearing impaired.
   d. The use of crawls during television EAS broadcasts and closed caption devices when available to warn the hearing impaired.

8. Activation of outdoor billboard(s), where applicable.

9. Social Media

C. Phases of Emergency Management

1. Mitigation
   a. Identify warning resources.
   b. Identify public service agencies that can augment warning capabilities.
   c. Analyze siren locations in relation to potential hazards.
   d. Coordinate warning capabilities with neighboring counties.

2. Preparedness
   a. Test, maintain and repair warning equipment.
b. Develop plans to warn areas not covered by existing warning systems.

c. Develop listing of warning equipment and locations.

d. Develop and maintain a list of telephone numbers of key personnel for emergency notification.

3. Response

a. Activate outdoor siren warning systems.

b. Implement warning guides.

c. Work with the PIO to distribute necessary information to the media and general public.

4. Recovery

Continue the dissemination of emergency information through the PIO as long as necessary.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. National

NAWAS is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) dedicated nationwide warning system operated on a 24-hour basis. FEMA has the responsibility for warning the nation of an impending enemy attack or actual attack upon the United States. Warnings are also issued for severe weather, technological hazards, dam failures, widespread fires and other emergencies. Two (2) National Warning Centers are manned continuously by Attack Warning Officers. Dedicated telephone circuits connect the National Warning Centers to FEMA headquarters, FEMA regional offices, other federal agencies, military installations in the continental United States, city and county warning points.

FEMA is also responsible for IPAWS. This system is a modernization and integration of the nation’s alert and warning infrastructure.\(^1\) Federal, state, territorial, tribal and local alerting authorities can use IPAWS and integrate local systems that use Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) standards with the IPAWS infrastructure.

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ANX C (Notification and Warning) to the Summit County Basic Plan 2016

C-5
B. State of Ohio

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5502, OEMA is in charge of coordinating state-level emergency communications support between the agencies of state, federal and local government from activation of the EOC to recovery.

There are two (2) NAWAS Warning Points: State Emergency Operations Center, Columbus, Ohio and Ohio State Highway Patrol Post, Cambridge, Ohio.

C. Summit County

1. The Summit County warning point for NAWAS notifications is the SCSO. Upon receiving any notifications, the SCSO will notify the SCEMA Director and/or staff for dissemination.

2. The Summit County warning points for IPAWS notifications is the SCEMA and the SCSO.

3. Weather warning centers are located at the National Weather Service Offices in Cleveland and Wilmington (refer to Tab 3 – National Weather Service Non-Weather Event Activation Guides). Cleveland is the Weather Warning Center for Summit County.

The National Weather Service of the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is the government agency responsible for the declaration and dissemination of severe weather watches and warnings.

An agreement between FEMA and NOAA provides for the utilization of NAWAS by the weather service offices for the dissemination of severe weather watches and warnings. NAWAS points are located in all Weather Services Offices in Ohio.

NOAA Weather Radio Stations provide continuous around-the-clock broadcasts of the latest weather information directly from Weather Services Offices.

The Ohio LEADS System provides for rapid dissemination of severe weather warnings to all Ohio law enforcement agencies with LEADS terminal equipment.

4. AGREEMENT - The SCEMA has entered into an agreement with the Cleveland office of the National Weather Service to activate NOAA weather radios for non-weather hazards. This system can only be activated by the SCEMA Director or the Summit County Sheriff utilizing the established
5. The EAS has been designed to provide an operational public warning capability to national, state and local governments. It uses the facilities and personnel of non-government communications industry on a voluntary basis and is operated by the industry under appropriate government regulations in a controlled manner. It consists of broadcast stations licensed by the Federal Communications Center (FCC) and those agencies participating in the EAS (refer to Tab 4B – Radio and TV Stations in the East Central Ohio Local Area).

The State operational area and the local EAS are used to broadcast information on peacetime disasters or emergencies. Such use is encouraged, especially for announcing tornado watches and warnings and other natural or man-made disaster information. Refer to Tab 4B – Radio and TV Stations in the East Central Ohio Local Area for EAS stations serving Summit County.

6. The Summit County Engineer’s Office has agreed to notify the SCEMA of any potential flooding, which may occur with information obtained with flood gauges.

C. Local

1. Notification of governmental departments and agencies may be conducted by utilizing telephones, pagers, radios and/or text messaging.

2. Public notification may be accomplished by the sounding of outdoor sirens, EAS broadcasts, Emergency Telephone Alert System, door-to-door notification and/or public address system.

3. Warning signals for the siren systems in Summit County are configured to follow the FEMA guidance on the use of a certain signal to warn people of an enemy attack, and a different signal to notify them of a peacetime disaster (refer to Tab 2 – Siren Activation Recommendations/Location Map).

D. Assignment of Responsibilities

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

A. Upon opening of the EOC, the coordination and/or dissemination of warning information will be provided to the general public from the Joint Information Center (JIC).

B. The PIO will coordinate the release of emergency public information to the media through the JIC (refer to Annex D – Emergency Public Information).

C. The Coordinated Call Center may be utilized to distribute non-emergency information to the public.

D. Should public notification/warning for a natural disaster threat become necessary, the guidelines established on Page C-2, III. Concept of Operations will be utilized.

VI. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

A. The line of succession will be determined by the responsible party, jurisdiction and type of incident.


VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

VIII. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. All county offices with emergency notification/warning responsibilities (reference Section III. Concept of Operations - A. and B. of this Annex) are responsible for reviewing this Annex at least once a year and submitting new or updated information to the SCEMA commencing one year from the approval date of this document or more often as necessary.

B. Law enforcement agencies and fire departments with warning duties are responsible for developing and maintaining departmental Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG), mutual-aid agreements, personnel rosters including 24-hour emergency notification telephone numbers and equipment inventories.

IX. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

A. Authorities

Not used. See Item IX. A. of the Basic Plan.
B. References


ESF-2 to the Ohio EOP - Ohio Emergency Operations Plan, Emergency Support Function #2, Communications and Information Technology, July 2016 (added).

Ohio Revised Code 5502 – Department of Public Safety

X. ADDENDUMS

Tab 1  Media List
Tab 2  Siren Activation Recommendation/Location Map
Tab 3  National Weather Service Non-Weather Event Activation Guide
Tab 4  Emergency Alert System (EAS) Activation Guides
Tab 4b  Radio and TV Stations in the East Central Ohio Local Area
Tab 5  Reverse Alert – Emergency Telephone Notification System Activation Guides
Tab 6  Emergency Cable Interrupt Activation Guides
Tab 7  Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS)
# Media List

**DAILY NEWSPAPERS**

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<tr>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akron Beacon Journal</td>
<td>News Tips</td>
<td>330-996-3530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44 East Exchange Street</td>
<td>News Release Fax</td>
<td>330-996-3033 (FAX)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 640</td>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>330-996-3333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akron, Ohio 44309-0640</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Plain Dealer</td>
<td>Editor</td>
<td>216-999-4373</td>
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<td>216-999-4825</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast Ohio Media Group - Cleveland.com</td>
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<td>216-999-4604</td>
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<tr>
<td>1801 Superior Avenue East, Suite 100</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleveland, OH 44114</td>
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<td>Akron Legal News</td>
<td></td>
<td>330-376-0917</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 South Summit Street</td>
<td></td>
<td>330-376-7001 (FAX)</td>
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**WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS**

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<td>West Side Leader, South Side Leader and Akron.com</td>
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<td>330-665-9595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3075 Smith Road, Suite 204</td>
<td></td>
<td>330-665-9590 (FAX)</td>
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<td>The Suburbanite</td>
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<td>330-899-2872</td>
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<tr>
<td>3577 South Arlington, Suite B</td>
<td></td>
<td>330-896-7633 (FAX)</td>
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<td>The Barberton Herald</td>
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<td>330-753-1068</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 Fourth Street NW</td>
<td></td>
<td>330-753-1021 (FAX)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 831</td>
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<td>1046 South Arlington Street</td>
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<td>330-535-7333 (FAX)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akron, Ohio 44306</td>
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</table>
Record Publishing
1619 Commerce Drive
P.O. Box 1549
Stow, Ohio 44224

The University of Akron - The Buchtelite
Student Union Rm. 51-LL
Akron, Ohio 44325-4602

RADIO STATIONS

WKDD/WTOU-iHeartRadio
7755 Freedom Avenue
Canton, Ohio 44720
News Line
330-864-6397
330-869-9750 (FAX)

Rubber City Radio Group
1795 West Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44313

WNIR 100
P.O. Box 2170
Akron, Ohio 44309

WAPS 91.3 FM - The Summit
65 Steiner Avenue
Akron, Ohio 44301

WZIP-FM
The University of Akron
302 East Buchtel Avenue
Akron, Ohio 44325-0001

WKSU
1613 East Summit Street
Kent, Ohio 44242

PUBLIC ACCESS

Community Cable Nine Television
885 East Highland Road
Macedonia, Ohio 44056

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ANX C (Notification and Warning) to the Summit County Basic Plan 2016
C-12

Channel 15
65 Steiner Avenue
Akron, Ohio 44301

Western Reserve PBS – News Nite
1750 Campus Center Drive
PO BOX 5191
Kent, OH 44240

TELEVISION

WKYC 3 (NBC) CLEVELAND
Main Office
1333 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

WEWS-TV News Net 5 (ABC) CLEVELAND
Main Office
3001 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

WJW 8 (FOX) CLEVELAND
Akron Bureau
University of Akron

WOIO-TV 19 (CBS) CLEVELAND
1717 E. 12th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

MAGAZINES

Great Lakes Publishing
1422 Euclid Avenue, Suite 730
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Akron Life & Leisure
1653 Merriman Rd., Suite 116
Akron, Ohio 44313

ScripType Publishing Inc.
4300 W. Streetsboro Rd.
Richfield, Ohio 44286
NEWSLETTERS

Greater Akron Chamber of Commerce
One Cascade Plaza, 17th Floor
Akron, Ohio 44308-1192

330-376-5550

NATIONAL MEDIA

Associated Press
450 W. 33rd Street
New York, NY 10001

212-621-1500

NETWORKING ORGANIZATIONS

Downtown Akron Partnership
58 West Exchange Street
Akron, Ohio 44308-1068

330-374-7676

330-374-7620 (FAX)

WEB

The Patch
Bath/Fairlawn, Cuyahoga Falls,
Stow and Twinsburg

tips@patch.com
SIREN ACTIVATION RECOMMENDATION/LOCATION MAP

a. Attack Warning signal is a 3-to-5 minute wavering (warbling in pitch) tone on a siren or a series of short blasts on horns of other devices. The Attack Warning signal shall mean that an actual attack against the country has been detected and that protective action should be taken immediately. The Attack Warning signal shall be repeated as often as necessary by local government authorities to obtain the required response by the population, including taking protective action related to the arrival of fallout. The meaning of the signal "protective action should be taken immediately" is appropriate for the initial attack warning and any subsequent attacks. This signal will also be used for accidental missile launch warnings.

b. Attention or Alert Warning is a 3-to-5 minute steady signal from sirens, horns, or other devices. This signal may be used as authorized by local government officials to alert the public to peacetime emergencies. In addition to any other meaning or requirement for action as determined by local government officials, the Attention or Alert signal shall mean to all persons in the United States, "Turn on radio or television. Listen for essential information."

c. A third distinctive signal is used for other purposes such as a local fire signal.
TAB 3 TO ANNEX C

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE NON-WEATHER EVENT ACTIVATION GUIDE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Tab is to establish activation guides for Summit County, Ohio.

II. SITUATIONS

A. Summit County is part of the National Weather Service Non-Weather Event Activation System.

B. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) may be activated to notify the general public of an immediate threat to the life, health, and safety of the population.

C. Weather radios may be activated on a day-to-day basis in response to such emergencies as tornadoes, severe storms, flash floods, widespread fires, discharge of toxic chemicals or gases, industrial explosions, widespread power failures, civil disturbances or any other occurrence, which poses an immediate threat to health, life, safety or property of the population.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Authorized Officials

1. The designated officials authorized to activate the operational area EAS and/or the local (in-county) EAS is the Summit County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA) Director or the Summit County Sheriff.

B. Requests for Activation of Non-Weather Alert Radios

1. Requests will be made through the SCEMA. The SCEMA Director and/or staff will complete the Summit County Warning Activation Form to process the request.

2. All requests will be from the SCEMA to the Cleveland Office of the National Weather Service.
EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM ACTIVATION GUIDES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Tab is to establish activation guides for Summit County, Ohio.

II. SITUATIONS

A. Summit County is part of the East Central Emergency Alert System operational area, which encompasses nine (9) counties.

B. As a part of this operational area, nine (9) county officials may activate the entire nine (9) county operational area for widespread emergencies.

C. When only the local area is affected, individual radio stations within the county may be used to broadcast emergency information without activating the nine (9) county operational area.

D. The operational area’s EAS primary originating station is WHBC located in Canton.

E. The secondary operational area’s EAS originating station is WONE located in Akron, Ohio. This secondary station is used only when the primary station cannot be reached.

F. It is recommended that for localized emergencies in Summit County, WHBC be contacted due to the large number of area stations serving these counties. In this way, all stations will be alerted through operational area activation. Activation of Central and East Lakeshore Warning Area may also be used.

G. The EAS system may be activated to notify the general public of an immediate threat to the life, health, and safety of the population.

H. The Summit County EAS may be activated on a day-to-day basis in response to such emergencies as tornadoes, severe storms, flash floods, widespread fires, discharge of toxic chemicals or gases, industrial explosions, widespread power failures, civil disturbances or any other occurrence, which poses an immediate threat to health, life, safety or property of the population.
III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Authorized Official

The designated officials authorized to active the operational area EAS and/or the local (in-county) EAS is the Summit County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA) Director or the Summit County Sheriff.

B. Requests for Activation of EAS

Requests will be made through the SCEMA. The SCEMA Director and/or staff will complete the Summit County Warning Activation Form to process the request. When requesting EAS activation, authorized officials will use code words issued to them by the EAS Communications Committee to authenticate requests.
### RADIO AND TV STATIONS IN THE EAST CENTRAL OHIO LOCAL AREA

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<th>STATION</th>
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<td>WKRIJ New Philadelphia</td>
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<td><strong>WCMJ Cambridge</strong></td>
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<td>WCWS Wooster</td>
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<td>WZKL Alliance</td>
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ANX C (Notification and Warning) to the Summit County Basic Plan 2016
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**TV**

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TAB 5 TO ANNEX C

REVERSE ALERT - EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM
ACTIVATION GUIDES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Tab is to establish activation guides for Summit County, Ohio.

II. SITUATIONS

A. All community officials within Summit County may request activation of the Reverse Alert - Emergency Telephone Notification System.

B. The Reverse Alert - Emergency Telephone Notification System will only be activated to notify the general public of an immediate threat to the life, health, and safety of the population.

C. This system uses the white pages for listing of current telephone numbers.

D. All of Summit County may be notified, or specific, individual locations.

E. The Reverse Alert - Emergency Telephone Notification System may be activated on a day-to-day basis in response to such emergencies as widespread fires, discharge of toxic chemicals or gases, industrial explosions, widespread extended power failures, civil disturbances, boil water alert, or any other occurrence, which poses an immediate threat to health, life, safety or property of the population.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Authorized Officials

1. The designated officials authorized to activate the Reverse Alert Emergency Telephone Notification System is the Summit County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA) Director or the Summit County Sheriff.

B. Requests for Activation of Emergency Telephone Notification System

1. Requests will be made through the SCEMA. The SCEMA Director and/or staff will complete the Summit County Warning Activation Form to process the request.
When requesting Reverse - Alert Emergency Telephone Notification System activation, authorized officials will request a callback number to authenticate requests.

2. When calling to request activation of the Emergency Telephone Notification System, the requester must provide the following information:
   a. Type of incident;
   b. Location needing notified;
      I. Community-wide
      II. Street perimeter
   c. Message that needs to be distributed;
   d. Number of times and duration of alert.

** When possible this information should be given in writing to the SCEMA.

3. After authentication of the request for activation, authorized personnel will prepare the alert message and release the message.
TAB 6 TO ANNEX C

EMERGENCY CABLE INTERRUPT ACTIVATION GUIDES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Tab is to establish activation guides for Summit County, Ohio.

II. SITUATIONS

A. All community officials within Summit County may request activation of the Emergency Cable Interrupt that interrupts cable broadcasting.

C. The Emergency Cable Interrupt will only be activated to notify the general public of an immediate threat to the life, health, and safety of the population.

D. The Emergency Cable Interrupt may also be activated on a day-to-day basis in response to such emergencies as flood, widespread fires, discharge of toxic chemicals or gases, industrial explosions, civil disturbances, boil water alert, or any other occurrence, which poses an immediate threat to health, life, and safety of the population.

E. Activation of specific cable companies will be determined based on the area needing notified. All of Summit County may be notified, or specific, individual locations.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Authorized Officials

1. The designated officials authorized to activate the Emergency Cable Interrupt is the Summit County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA) Director or the Summit County Sheriff.

B. Requests for Activation of Emergency Cable Interrupt

1. When requesting Emergency Cable Interrupt activation, authorized officials will request a callback number to authenticate requests.
2. When calling to request activation of the Cable Interrupt System, the requester must give the following information:

   a. Type of incident;
   
   b. Message that needs to be distributed;
   
   c. Number of times and duration of alert.

   ** When possible this information should be given in writing to the SCEMA.

3. After authentication of the request for activation, authorized personnel will prepare the alert message and release the message in accordance with FCC Rules, Part 11.
TAB 7 TO ANNEX C

WIRELESS EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM
ACTIVATION GUIDES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Tab is to establish activation guides for Summit County, Ohio.

II. SITUATIONS

A. The Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS) will only be used to alert emergency personnel in Summit County via SMS text, voice, email and/or pager.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Authorized Officials

1. The designated officials authorized to activate the WENS is the Summit County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA) Director or the Summit County Sheriff.

2. All sub-account users within Summit County may activate their account for departmental notification use.

B. Requests for Activation of Wireless Emergency Notification System

1. Requests will be made through the SCEMA.

2. When calling to request activation of the WENS, the requester must give the following information:

   a. Type of incident;
   
   b. Who needs notified
   
   c. Message to be distributed.

   ** When possible this information should be given in writing to the SCEMA.