EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS)

PROCEDURES FOR THE

Nome, Alaska Operational Area

EAS LOCAL AREA

INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING TOWNS

Nome, Teller, White Mountain, Gambell, Savoonga,

Shaktoolik, Unalakleet & Koyuk

Predicted Daytime Coverage Area for KNOM 780 AM, Nome, AK

[Map showing coverage area with labels for various locations such as Nome, Savoonga, St Paul, and others]
Predicted Coverage Area for **KNOM 96.1 FM**, Nome, AK
Predicted Daytime Coverage Area for **KICY 850 AM, Nome, AK**
Predicted Coverage Area for **KICY 100.3 FM**, Nome, AK
INTRODUCTION

This Emergency Alert System (EAS) Local Area Plan was developed by the Nome Local Emergency Communications Committee (LEPC) in cooperation with local broadcast and cable operators. The Plan outlines the methods used to disseminate emergency information and warning to the general public in the Nome Operational EAS Local Area or any portion thereof, within the broadcast coverage and cable system service areas, at the request of local, State and Federal officials. This local EAS plan may be activated in response to common local emergency situations such as power outages, floods, civil disorders, earthquakes, heavy snows, toxic chemical leaks or any occurrence which poses a danger to life or property.

Acceptance of/or participation in this plan shall not be deemed as a relinquishment of program control, and shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast licensee or cable operator from exercising his independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Broadcast stations and cable systems originating emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. The concept of management of each broadcast station and cable system to exercise discretion regarding the transmission of emergency information and instructions to the general public is provided by the FCC Rules and Regulations.

II. AUTHORITY
III. KEY EAS SOURCES

A. Local Primary Source (LP-1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>KNOM 780 AM/96.1 FM, Nome, Alaska</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EAS Codes in Encoder/Decoder</td>
<td>See Annex C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| EAS Monitoring Assignments | National Weather Service, EMNet & KTV
| Contact                   | Ric Schmidt                       |
| Telephone                 | 907-443-5221                      |
| Unlisted Telephone        | None                              |
| Hours of Operation        | 7 am to 6 pm Mon.-Fri. & 9 am to 6 pm Sat./Sun. |
| Communications Facilities | 107 West 7th Avenue, Nome, Alaska, 99762. |
B. **Local Primary Source (LP-2)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>KICY 850 AM/100.3 FM Nome, Alaska</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EAS Codes in Encoder/Decoder</td>
<td>See Annex C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAS Monitoring Assignments</td>
<td>KNOM, NWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>Dennis Weidler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>907-443-2213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlisted Telephone</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours of Operation</td>
<td>8 am to 5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Facilities</td>
<td>401 West D Street, Nome, AK, 99762.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV. **AUTHENTICATION** (See ANNEX B)

The following two steps should be performed, in order, when an EAS alert or test is first received in order to determine the legitimacy of the alert.

A. **Test and Emergency Code Words**

Authenticate the alert or test by comparing the preset code word to the authentication word in the EAS alert.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Testing Code Word (if used)</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual Emergency Code Word</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. **Return Telephone Call**

Return telephone call to appropriate number (listed in Annex A).

Note: National Weather Service (NWS) warnings received via NOAA Weather Radio, NOAA Weather Wire or AP, Reuters and UPI wire services do not need additional authentication.
V. IMPLEMENTATION

The following procedures should be used to implement EAS alerts.

A. Procedures for Designated Officials

1. **Activation Request**

   Request activation of the EAS facilities through the NWS Fairbanks Office via phone or other available communications facility. The Fairbanks Forecast Office may call back the requesting agency to verify authenticity of the request.

   In the event the NWS Fairbanks Forecast Office cannot activate the EAS facilities, request activation of the EAS facilities through the LP-1 or LP-2 via phone or other available communication facility.

2. **Contact Format**

   Designated officials use the following format when contacting the key EAS sources:

   "This is (Name/Title) of (Organization). I request that the Emergency Alert System be activated for the Local Area because of (Description of emergency)."

   Use Authentication as noted in paragraph IV above.

3. **Details of Transmission**

   Upon authentication, designated officials, EAS source personnel determine transmission details (i.e., live or recorded, immediate or delayed). Officials should provide emergency program material including a description of the of the emergency, actions being taken by local government, and instructions to the public.

4. **Lines of Communication**

   Keep line of communication open if necessary.

5. **Specific Area Activation**

   For a unique emergency not involving the entire local area, local authorities may request activation of the EAS through the broadcast station and cable system serving only the affected area.
B. Procedures for Broadcast and Cable System Personnel

1. LP-1 Response to EAS Alert

Upon receipt of a request to activate the local EAS from appropriate authority (verify authenticity via method described in IV above), the LP-1 (or alternate LP-2) may proceed as follows:

a. ANNOUNCEMENT

Broadcast the following announcement:

"WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW."

b. TRANSMISSION OF EAS CODES

Transmit the EAS header codes and Attention Signal.

c. ANNOUNCEMENT

Transmit the following announcement and material:

"WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM FOR THE NOME OPERATIONAL AREA BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS WILL FOLLOW."

*** Follow with emergency program ***

d. TERMINATION

To terminate the EAS message (immediately or later), make the following announcement:

"THIS CONCLUDES EAS PROGRAMMING. ALL BROADCAST STATIONS AND CABLE SYSTEMS MAY NOW RESUME NORMAL OPERATIONS."

e. END-OF-MESSAGE CODE

Transmit the EAS End of Message (EOM) code.

Important Note: For State and local emergencies, broadcasters and cable operators have the option of transmitting only the EAS header and EOM codes without an audio emergency message. This is acceptable so that EAS coded messages can be unobtrusively relayed through areas unaffected by the emergency.
2. **Procedures for Monitoring Stations and Cable Systems**

All other broadcast stations and cable systems are monitoring key sources via EAS monitor receiver/decoders and will be alerted by the header codes and attention signal. Each station and cable system upon receipt of the signal will, at the discretion of management, perform the same procedures as in step 1 above by transmitting the emergency message from the LP-1 or LP-2.

3. **Responsibility to Provide Confirmed Information**

To avoid unnecessary escalation of public confusion, all stations and cable systems must be cautious in providing news and information pertaining to the emergency. All messages must be based on definite and confirmed facts. The public must not be left to decide what is or is not fact.

4. **Resume Normal Programming**

Upon completion of the above transmission procedures, resume normal programming. Appropriate notations should be made in the station and cable system records. A very brief summary may be sent to the FCC for information purposes only.

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### VI. TESTS

Tests of these EAS procedures shall be conducted on a random or scheduled basis from a point which would originate the common emergency message.

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### VII. ANNEXES

- **ANNEX A** List of designated officials and phone numbers
- **ANNEX B** Authentication procedures
- **ANNEX C** Approvals
- **ANNEX D** List of EAS codes transmitted by key EAS sources
- **ANNEX E** List of broadcast stations and cable systems
Designated Officials For the Nome Operational EAS Plan

| Nome Police 24hr. Communications Center and Designated Officials City Manager, Chief Police |
| Supervisor, Nome Post for Alaska State Troopers. |
ANNEX B

AUTHENTICATION PROCEDURES

Any Designated Officials identifying themselves with authenticating statement that the announcement is following the Nome Operational Plan guidelines.
This Nome Operational Area Local EAS plan was developed and approved by the Nome Operational Area Local Emergency Communications Committee in cooperation with the Nome Local Emergency Planning Committee.

The plan is coordinated with and distributed to all designated officials listed in Annex A and all broadcast stations and cable systems listed in Annex E.

Ric Schmidt – KNOM 780 AM/96.1 FM
Broadcast EAS Local Area Chair

Date

David Fawcett – GCI Cable
Cable EAS Local Area Chair

Date

Michael Mercer
National Weather Service
Fairbanks Service Forecast Office

Mimi Farley, Nome Emergency Services
Local Government Official

Date
# ANNEX D

## LIST OF EAS CODES TRANSMITTED BY EAS KEY SOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key EAS Source (County FIPS #)</th>
<th>ORG - Originator</th>
<th>EEE - Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Code</td>
<td>CIV/WX</td>
<td>CEM – Civil Emergency Message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Code</td>
<td>CIV/WX</td>
<td>EVI – Evacuation Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Code</td>
<td>CIV/WX</td>
<td>HMW – Hazardous Materials Warning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Code</td>
<td>CIV/WX</td>
<td>SPW – Shelter In Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather Code</td>
<td>WX</td>
<td>BZW – Blizzard Warning Only if initial issuance is within 4 hours of event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather Code</td>
<td>WX</td>
<td>FLW – Flood Warning Only if initial issuance is within 4 hours of event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather Code</td>
<td>WX</td>
<td>HWW – High Wind Warning Only if initial issuance is within 4 hours of event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather Code</td>
<td>WX</td>
<td>WSW – Winter Storm Warning Only if initial issuance is within 4 hours of event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather Code</td>
<td>CIV</td>
<td>RMT – Required Monthly Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather Code</td>
<td>EAN</td>
<td>EAN – Emergency Action Notification</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
List of Participating Broadcast Stations and Cable Systems

GCI Cable – Nome, Alaska

KNOM Radio Mission, Inc.
   KNOM 780AM
   KNOM 96.1 FM

Arctic Broadcasting, Inc.
   KICY 850 AM
   KICY 100.3 FM