



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

March 2, 2018

David H. Arland  
Executive Director  
Indiana Broadcasters Association  
P.O. Box 902  
Carmel, Indiana 46082

Dear Mr. Arland:

This letter is in response to your request, on behalf of the Indiana Broadcasters Association, to test using a "live code." I hereby grant a limited, one-time waiver of Sections 11.31, 11.45, and 11.61 of the Federal Communications Commission's Emergency Alert System (EAS) rules, 47 CFR Part 11, to permit EAS Participants in Indiana to use the live event code, "TOR," in a special statewide tornado drill on March 20, 2018, with a backup date of March 21, 2018.

This waiver is limited to the drill to be conducted on one of the two dates referenced above, and applies only as that test is described in your letter dated February 5, 2018. The waiver is based on representations that this test is part of the National Weather Service (NWS) "Severe Weather Preparedness Week" in the State of Indiana and: (1) "without the live codes the 'test' information would not be relayed through law enforcement communication, thus weakening the designation of the 'statewide drill';" (2) NWS has coordinated the statewide tornado test with all known EAS participants in Indiana, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, all Public Safety Answering Points, and emergency management at the state and local levels, "who in turn work with their residents, businesses, and government agencies on preparedness activities;" (3) pre-test publicity efforts will include "news releases to all daily newspapers in Indiana, stories in radio and television newscasts as well as discussions on radio and television news talk shows," and website postings; (4) test wording will be found throughout the warning, follow up statements and cancellation message; and (5) this special test would not substitute for a regular weekly or monthly test.

Additionally, I urge you to continue to conduct as wide-ranging a public information campaign as is practicable about the planned testing events.

This rule waiver is granted under delegated authority pursuant to Sections 1.3 and 0.392 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR Sections 1.3 and 0.392.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Wilhelm", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Wilhelm  
Chief, Policy and Licensing Division  
Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission