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Public Comments on Emergency Alert System:=====

Title: Emergency Alert System

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Comment: In response to the feedback requested, we believe coastal counties as well as many inland counties along the gulf and east coast will benefit greatly from the adoption of the additional EAS codes. As discussed, the changes would be helpful in adding much greater specificity to warnings regarding Tornado, High Wind, and Storm Surge events.

As explained, it is foreseeable that there is a great need to distinguish and much value to residents in providing detailed public information regarding flooding versus surge events. Coastal residents may know or have an anticipated expectation regarding the impact of flood warnings which may be due in part to wind, tide, or heavy rain. And that anticipation can be confused unless the wording used is completely different as proposed.

Studies show, the public is more likely to follow protective action recommendation, such as evacuations or shelter in place, or limit travel, if the directives are clearly and concisely communicated to them.

Adding specificity by the creation of three new EAS Codes would be consistent with that logic and lead to more effective communication of potential hazards to coastal and many inland communities.

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