

NOUS41 KWBC 231840
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...COMMENT REQUEST
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
240 PM EDT WED SEP 23 2009

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
-FAMILY OF SERVICES
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
-NOAAPORT
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: ELI JACKS
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: CURRENTLY SOLICITING COMMENTS BY NOVEMBER 30 2009 REGARDING
CHANGING THE MINIMUM HAIL SIZE CRITERION FOR ISSUING SEVERE THUNDERSTORM
WARNINGS AND SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENTS

THE NWS IS CONSIDERING CHANGING THE MINIMUM HAIL SIZE CRITERION IT USES
FOR ISSUING SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING /SVR/ AND SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENT
/SVS/ PRODUCTS FROM 3/4-INCH /PENNY/ DIAMETER OR LARGER TO 1-INCH /QUARTER/
DIAMETER OR LARGER. NO CHANGE IS BEING PROPOSED TO THE SEVERE
THUNDERSTORM WIND CRITERION: WIND GUSTS EQUAL TO OR IN EXCESS OF 50 KNOTS
/58 MPH/.

COMMENTS REGARDING THIS PROPOSED CHANGE SHOULD BE BY NOVEMBER 30 2009 TO
/USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=1INCHA-WR](http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=1INCHA-WR)

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN REGION WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES
/WFOS/...THE NWS CURRENTLY ISSUES SVR AND SVS PRODUCTS WHENEVER A
THUNDERSTORM IS FORECAST TO CONTAIN HAIL SIZE 3/4-INCH /PENNY/ DIAMETER OR
LARGER.

ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS...CENTRAL /CR/ AND WESTERN REGION /WR/ WFOS ARE
USING THE PROPOSED 1-INCH /QUARTER/ DIAMETER OR LARGER MINIMUM HAIL SIZE
CRITERION TO ISSUE SVR AND SVS PRODUCTS UNTIL OCTOBER 31 2009 AND NOVEMBER
30 2009...RESPECTIVELY.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION DOCUMENTS /PDDS/ FOR THESE EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCTS ARE
AVAILABLE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://PRODUCTS.WEATHER.GOV/VIEWLISTE.PHP](http://products.weather.gov/viewliste.php)

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES /SCNS/ ANNOUNCING THE CR AND WR EXPERIMENTAL
PRODUCTS ARE ALSO ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/MEDIA/NOTIFICATION/PDFS/SCN09-36WR_HAIL_EXP.PDF](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/SCN09-36WR_HAIL_EXP.PDF)

AND

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/MEDIA/NOTIFICATION/PDFS/SCN09-19HAIL CHANGE.PDF](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn09-19hail_change.pdf)

UPON THE COMPLETION OF THESE EXPERIMENTAL PERIODS AND THE CLOSE OF THIS PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT /PNS/ COMMENT PERIOD...THE NWS WILL EVALUATE ALL RECEIVED COMMENTS TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED WITH THE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM MINIMUM HAIL SIZE CRITERION CHANGE.

IF THE PROPOSED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM MINIMUM HAIL SIZE CRITERION CHANGE IS APPROVED...ALL NWS WFOS IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES /CONUS/ AND OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES /OCONUS/ WILL BEGIN ISSUING SVR AND SVS PRODUCTS FOR THUNDERSTORMS FORECAST TO CONTAIN MINIMUM HAIL SIZE 1-INCH /QUARTER/ DIAMETER OR LARGER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TUESDAY JANUARY 5 2010.

A SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE WILL BE ISSUED WITH A MINIMUM 30 DAY ADVANCE LEAD-TIME ANNOUNCING THIS CHANGE.

IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...PLEASE CONTACT:

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NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENTS ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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