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PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
818 AM EDT THU APR 15 2010

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

FROM: ROBERT BUNGE  
CHIEF... SOFTWARE BRANCH  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS CENTER  
OFFICE OF OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS

SUBJECT: SOLICITING PUBLIC COMMENTS THROUGH DECEMBER 31 2010  
ON NWS EXPERIMENTAL USE OF TWITTER TO SEARCH FOR  
USER REPORTS OF HAZARDOUS WEATHER

EFFECTIVE APRIL 15 2010...THE NWS WILL BEGIN AN EXPERIMENT TO  
SEARCH THE MICROBLOGGING SERVICE TWITTER FOR USER POSTS  
/TWEETS/ THAT CONTAIN SIGNIFICANT WEATHER INFORMATION.

AN ADVANTAGE OF SEARCHING TWITTER FOR WEATHER REPORTS IS THE  
CAPABILITY TO USE RECENTLY ADDED /GEOTAGGING/--GEOGRAPHICAL  
INFORMATION THAT IS ASSOCIATED WITH SOMETHING--IN THIS CASE  
INDIVIDUAL TWEETS. THIS INFORMATION ALLOWS NWS TO CORRELATE  
EACH TWEET TO ITS LOCATION WHEN IT WAS SENT.

NWS EXPECTS THAT ACCESS TO INFORMATION FROM THIS WIDELY USED  
SOCIAL MEDIA TOOL WILL HELP TO ENHANCE AND INCREASE TIMELY  
AND ACCURATE ONLINE WEATHER REPORTING AND COMMUNICATION  
BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND THEIR LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES.  
THE REPORTS WILL BE CAREFULLY EVALUATED DURING THE EXPERIMENT  
TO ENSURE QUALITY AND TIMELINESS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT...SEE THE FOLLOWING  
WEBSITE /ALL LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/STORMREPORTS/](http://www.weather.gov/stormreports/)

THE PUBLIC CAN MONITOR THESE REPORTS VIA THIRD PARTY  
WEBSITES. LINKS ARE PROVIDED AT THE ABOVE WEBSITE.

THE NWS IS REQUESTING COMMENTS THROUGH DECEMBER 31 2010 ON  
THE PROPOSED TEST. COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED THROUGH A SURVEY  
AT /USE LOWERCASE/:

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

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENTS ARE ONLINE AT /USE  
LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm)

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