TO:      Subscribers:  
- Family of Services  
- NOAA Weather Wire Service  
- Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
- NOAAPort  
Other NWS Partners and Employees

FROM:    John Guiney  
Chief, Eastern Region Meteorological Services Division

SUBJECT: Addition of Metadata to NWS Eastern Region Public Information Statements: Effective May 5, 2015

Effective Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), NWS Eastern Region Weather Forecast Offices will add metadata to the bottom of Public Information Statements (PNSs) used to summarize recent past weather such as snow accumulation, rainfall and wind gusts. This metadata will contain the same information found in the plain text portion of the message but will be in a format computers can decode and plot on a map.

The metadata will start immediately following a double ampersand (&&) with the heading *****METADATA*****. Each line following the header will contain information in comma separated value (CSV) format as follows:

:Event Date, Event Time, State, County, Reference City, Distance (miles) from Reference City, Direction from Reference City, Latitude, Longitude (in decimal degrees), Weather Event Type, Magnitude of Event, Weather Units, Report Source, Remarks.

Here is a sample of the new format:

NOUS41 KPBZ  
PNSPBZ  
PAZ016

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT SPOTTER REPORTS  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PITTSBURGH PA  
338 PM EST THU FEB 26 2015
THE FOLLOWING ARE UNOFFICIAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN DURING THE PAST 8 HOURS FOR THE STORM THAT HAS BEEN AFFECTING OUR REGION. APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO SKYWARN SPOTTERS...COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS...MEDIA AND HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS FOR THESE REPORTS.

***************STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL***************

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL</th>
<th>TIME/DATE OF MEASUREMENT</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OHIO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEFFERSON COUNTY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 WNW FOLLANSBEE</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1255 PM 2/18</td>
<td>SOCIAL MEDIA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*****METADATA*****

:2/18/2015, 1255 PM, OH, JEFFERSON, FOLLANSBEE, 1, WNW, 40.3421, -80.6197, SNOW, 1.7, INCH, SOCIAL MEDIA, ELEV 1000

Note this format change does not require any change to NOAA Weather Wire Service product identifiers, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Heading codes or Universal Geographic Codes.

For comments on the new format, contact:

Rick Watling
NWS Eastern Region HQ
E-mail: Richard.Watling@noaa.gov
Phone: 631-244-0123

National Service Change Notices are online at:

https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive

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NNNN