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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 17-118  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
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To:           Subscribers  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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              Other NWS Partners and Employees

From:         Terrance J. Clark  
              Director, WSR-88D Radar Operations Center

Subject:      WSR-88D RDA/RPG Build 18.0 Beta Test Scheduled to  
              Begin January 2018

The Radar Operations Center will begin the Beta Test phase of Radar Data Acquisition (RDA)/Radar Product Generator (RPG) Build 18.0 in January 2018 and continue through March 2018.

Changes affecting external users include the removal of four Volume Coverage Patterns (VCPs) and the introduction of two new VCPs. NWS will remove VCPs 11, 211, 21 and 221 and introduce VCPs 35 and 215. More information is available at the link below:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/tins/tin15-49wsr-88dbuild18aaa.pdf>

Additionally, at KICX Cedar City, UT, the lowest elevation angle will now be +0.2 degrees. This low elevation angle is a supplement to the standard suite of elevation angles; +0.2 degrees will be included in all VCPs at KICX.

Build 18.0 Beta Test sites and tentative start dates are as follows:

KUDX: Rapid City, SD  
January 8, 2018

PHKI: Kauai, HI  
January 22, 2018

KYUX: Yuma, AZ  
January 29, 2018

KEYX: Edwards AFB, CA  
February 5, 2018

KLTX: Wilmington, NC  
February 5, 2018

NWS expect to begin full deployment of Build 18.0 in late March

or early April 2018.

Updated Interface Control Documents (ICDs) are available for  
Build 18.0 at the following link:

<https://www.roc.noaa.gov/WSR88D/NewRadarTechnology/NewTechDefault.aspx>

For questions or comments, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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