IMPACTS... THE EARLY MORNING COMMUTE ON FEB. 5 WAS VERY MESSY. NUMEROUS TRAFFIC MISHAPS WERE REPORTED...AND MOST SCHOOLS WERE CLOSED FOR THE DAY. TEMPERATURES DURING THIS SNOWFALL EVENT WERE RIGHT NEAR THE FREEZING MARK. AS A RESULT...THE ACCUMULATION WAS WET AND HEAVY. THE SNOW FORMED A GREASY COATING ON ROADWAYS THAT WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT TO REMOVE. AS TEMPERATURES ROSE ABOVE FREEZING DURING THE MID MORNING HOURS...THE SNOW MELTED OFF ROADWAYS MORE EASILY.

WEATHER OVERVIEW... AN AREA OF INTENSE SNOWFALL MOVED NORTHEAST FROM ARKANSAS INTO SOUTHEAST MISSOURI LATE IN THE EVENING OF FEB. 4. SNOWFALL RATES OF UP TO 2 INCHES PER HOUR WERE REPORTED IN RIPLEY COUNTY MISSOURI. THUNDERSNOW WAS OBSERVED AT MANY LOCATIONS ACROSS SOUTHEAST MISSOURI...FAR WESTERN KENTUCKY...AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS. THE HEAVY SNOW AND THUNDER PROGRESSED ACROSS FAR WESTERN KENTUCKY AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DURING THE PRE-DAWN HOURS ON FEB. 5.

THE SNOW WAS CAUSED BY A SLOW MOVING UPPER LEVEL LOW NEAR THE COLORADO/KANSAS BORDER. A WEAK SURFACE LOW PRESSURE CENTER DEVELOPED OVER ARKANSAS...THEN MOVED NORTHEAST INTO NORTHERN TENNESSEE BY THE EVENING OF FEB. 5.
PHOTO BELOW TAKEN ON FEB. 5 IN A NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR PADUCAH KENTUCKY AFTER TEMPERATURES ROSE ABOVE FREEZING.

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SNOWFALL AND ICE REPORTS
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PADUCAH KY
930 AM CST THU FEB 5 2004

THE FOLLOWING REPORTS OF SNOW AND ICE ACCUMULATION WERE RELAYED TO THE NWS EARLY THIS MORNING FROM LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND AREA SPOTTERS. SUBSEQUENT AND CONTINUING RAINFALL MAY REDUCE THESE REPORTED AMOUNTS WITH REGARD TO WHAT IS ACTUALLY STILL BEING OBSERVED ON THE GROUND.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI...

CARTER COUNTY........5 INCHES
RIPLEY COUNTY.........4-6 INCHES
WAYNE COUNTY.........4 INCHES
BUTLER COUNTY........5 INCHES
BOLLINGER COUNTY.....3-5 INCHES
STODDARD COUNTY.....4 INCHES
PERRY COUNTY.........5 INCHES
CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY...5 INCHES
SCOTT COUNTY..........5-6 INCHES
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS...

PERRY COUNTY............3-5 INCHES
JACKSON COUNTY...........4-5 INCHES
UNION COUNTY.............4 INCHES
ALEXANDER COUNTY........3 INCHES
JEFFERSON COUNTY........2-3 INCHES
FRANKLIN COUNTY..........4 INCHES
WILLIAMSON COUNTY.......3 INCHES
JOHNSON COUNTY...........4 INCHES
HAMILTON COUNTY........3-4 INCHES
SALINE COUNTY...........2-3 INCHES
GALLATIN COUNTY.........2 INCHES
WABASH COUNTY...........2 INCHES
EDWARDS COUNTY...........3 INCHES

SOUTHWEST INDIANA...

GIBSON COUNTY...........1-2 INCHES
PIKE COUNTY..............1 INCH
VANDERBURGH COUNTY......1 INCH
SPENCER COUNTY..........1 INCH
POSEY COUNTY.............1 INCH
WARRICK COUNTY..........1 INCH

WESTERN KENTUCKY...

MCCracken COUNTY.........2-3 INCHES
GRAVES COUNTY...........1-2 INCHES
FULTON COUNTY...........1 INCH
MARSHALL COUNTY........1-2 INCHES
LIVINGSTON COUNTY.......2-3 INCHES
CALLOWAY COUNTY.........1 INCH
TRIGG COUNTY.............1-2 INCHES
Caldwell County.........1-2 INCHES
CHRISTIAN COUNTY.......<1 INCH
WEBSTER COUNTY.........2 INCHES
DAVIESS COUNTY........1 INCH