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Public Information Statement 16-21: Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
1145 AM EDT Thu Jul 28 2016

To: Subscribers:
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From: Eli Jacks
 Chief, Forecast Services Division

Subject: Amended: Soliciting comments through November 30, 2016,
 on proposed changes to Tropical Cyclone Watch/Warning
 (TCV) and Hurricane Local Statement (HLS) products for
 Atlantic tropical cyclones affecting the continental
 United States

Amended to extend comment period through November 30, 2016

Effective immediately and continuing through November 30, 2016,
the NWS is seeking user feedback on proposed changes to Tropical
Cyclone Watch/Warning (TCV) and Hurricane Local Statement (HLS)
products for Atlantic tropical cyclones affecting the
continental U.S.

Specifically, the NWS is proposing implementing new storm surge
watches and warnings in association with Atlantic tropical
cyclones affecting the continental U.S. beginning with the 2017
hurricane season. These new storm surge watches and warnings
will be integrated within the TCV and HLS products.

All TCV products issued by the NWS during the 2017 season for
tropical cyclones originating in the Atlantic basin affecting
the continental U.S. would include Valid Time Event Code (VTEC)
for storm surge watches and/or warnings when conditions warrant.
In addition, the NWS is proposing to expand the VTEC available
in TCV products issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC)
for Atlantic tropical cyclones affecting the continental U.S. to
include all NWS-issued VTEC both along the coast and inland.
Because of the increased information included, it is possible
that the NHC TCV product may not be sent until as much as 45
minutes after the NHC advisory package in some circumstances. No
changes are expected for the release times of the TCV and HLS
products issued by local Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs).

Changes to the HLS products issued by WFOs would be limited to
the "NEW INFORMATION" section of the product. The subsections
for "CHANGES TO THE WATCHES AND WARNINGS" and "CURRENT WATCHES
AND WARNINGS" would include storm surge watch warnings.

Information about the HLS product and VTEC can be found here:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notification/scn14-67tcv_aab.htm

Examples of the WFO and NHC issued TCV products with the new format can be viewed at:

www.nhc.noaa.gov/experimental/tcv

If the NWS decides to make storm surge watches and warnings operational in 2017, a Service Change Notice will be issued announcing the effective date. No changes are being made to the operational TCV and HLS products during the 2016 Tropical Season.

Please send comments or requests for more information by November 30, 2016:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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