

KEWS



**KENTUCKY
EMERGENCY
WARNING
SYSTEMS**
(502) 564-KEWS

*Technology-enabled Business Solutions
for 21st Century Government*

www.technology.ky.gov

VISION OF KEWS

The Kentucky Emergency Warning System's vision is to offer a state-wide, integrated communications and information network with high speed, high capacity delivery of voice, data and video transmissions to the Commonwealth's public safety agencies, positioning the Commonwealth to better serve our citizens with advanced applications and future technologies, such as:

- ◆ Next Generation 911
- ◆ Situational Awareness
- ◆ Command and Control
- ◆ Mobile Data Network
- ◆ Video surveillance and monitoring
- ◆ Amber and Golden alert services
- ◆ E-health services
- ◆ Weather Alerts

Our goal is to raise awareness of and support for public safety across the Commonwealth, and our commitment is that; ***"no lives are lost because public safety personnel cannot communicate with one another."***



KEWS HISTORY

Following the 1974 tornado outbreak, it became clear that the Commonwealth needed an independent communication system which would be able to support responding agencies during a time of disaster or emergency. Governor Julian Carroll and the 1976 Kentucky General Assembly set out to build a state-wide public safety communications network maintained and controlled by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The result of this work and dedication was a robust, highly survivable emergency communication network, used to provide communication services to the Commonwealth's Public Safety/First Responder agencies. This new network was named the Kentucky Emergency Warning System (KEWS).

KEWS UPGRADE

After thirty years of service, the analog system is well past the end of its expected life, so the Commonwealth initiated a KEWS infrastructure upgrade project in 2006 as a multi-year effort with an estimated price tag of \$45 million.

The KEWS network is being upgraded to a digital system and the aging outside plant systems supporting the network are being replaced or upgraded. The new system will increase the traffic-carrying capability, provide exceptional reliability, and position the Commonwealth to support new and emerging technologies including video and voice over IP. The civil work consists of improvements in the following areas:

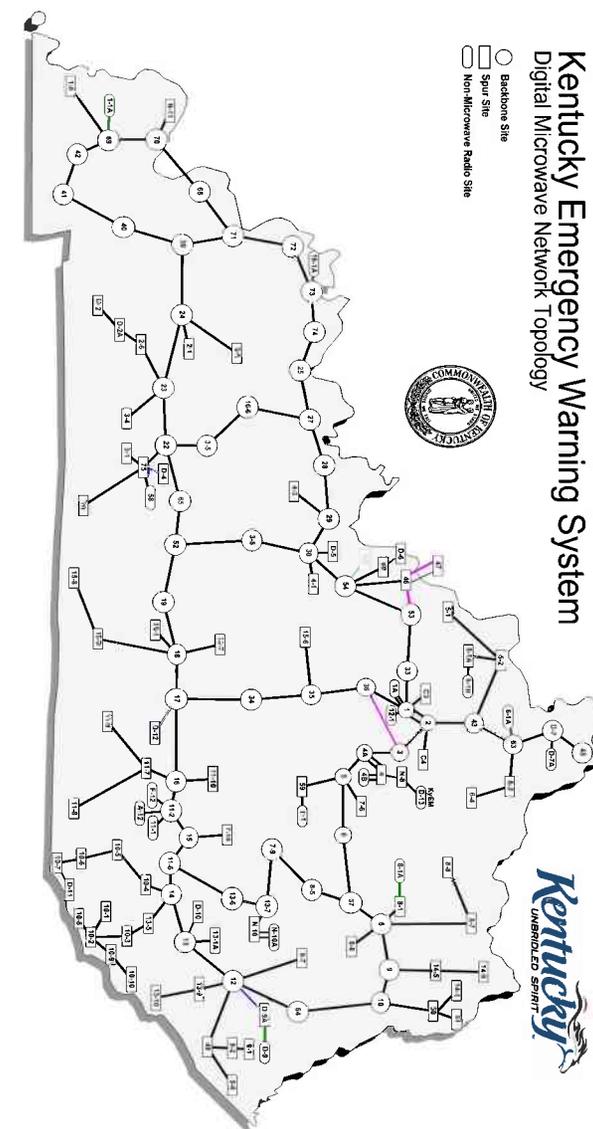
- ◆ Installation of new shelters
- ◆ Grounding upgrades
- ◆ Improvement to electrical service
- ◆ Installation of generators, fuel tanks, and auto-start systems
- ◆ Tower reinforcements
- ◆ Road repairs
- ◆ Guy path clearing
- ◆ New fencing

The civil work completed in the eastern part of the network has already returned tangible benefits. During the 2009 ice storm, many of the KEWS sites lost commercial power for days or even weeks. The sites that had new emergency batteries, UPS and generators operated flawlessly with uninterrupted power and uncompromised communications for the duration of the outage without manual intervention.



Supported Agencies and Applications

- Kentucky State Police
- Department of Military Affairs
- Kentucky Educational Television
- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
- Kentucky Emergency Management
- University of Kentucky
- Federal Bureau of Investigations
- United States Secret Service
- Army Corps of Engineers
- National Weather Service
- Local/County Emergency Services
- Local /County Law Enforcement
- Division of Forestry
- Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources
- Civil Air Patrol
- National Weather Service
- Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)
- Integrated Flood Level Observation and Warning System (IFLOWS)
- Commonwealth's Mobile Data network
- Plus many others



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