



IAEM Headquarters  
201 Park Washington Court  
Falls Church, VA  
22046-4527 USA  
Ph. 703-538-1795  
Fax 703-241-5603

Public Communications/Outreach Division Chief  
Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau Chief  
Policy Division Chief  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

**Subject: AAIRO's "Petition for Declaratory Ruling" – Travelers' Information Stations, Provision of Localized Public Safety and Emergency Information, Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 90.242 and 90.407**

The International Association of Emergency Managers, representing more than 4,000 members, works alongside a variety of nonprofit local, state, national and international organizations to achieve mutual goals of protecting life and property from disaster. In keeping with that objective, we endorse the "Petition for Declaratory Ruling" (referenced above) being submitted this year by the American Association of Information Radio Operators.

Hundreds of emergency management professionals across the country use FCC-licensed Travelers' Information Radio Stations (TIS) within multi-modal communication programs in the event of a need to transmit advisories directly to travelers during emergencies.

However, apart from its use for response, there is confusion over just when critical nonemergency messages may be broadcast to travelers as a preventive measure to mitigate the effects of future disasters upon life and property. In its Petition, the American Association of Information Radio Operators asks you to issue a clarification to Part 90.242 (TIS Rules) to assure licensees that TIS radio stations may be used to broadcast critical forecasts, advisories, evacuation and advance safety procedures on a day-to-day basis, at the discretion of licensed operators, to travelers in affected areas. This includes the ability to retransmit NOAA weather-related and all-hazard messages.

IAEM requests your positive response to the Petition. Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry J. Gispert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Larry J. Gispert  
IAEM President