AWIN Mutual Aid Channel Information

- **Capabilities**
  - ❖ AWIN Radios transmit on 700/800 MHz frequencies.
  - ❖ AWIN is a statewide system.
  - ❖ All AWIN radios have common channels, specifically MAC and NPSPC channels which are used for interoperability. These radios may also be programmed with common talkgroups used for daily operations.
- **Constraints:**
  - ❖ AWIN must be fully operational for statewide communications to be available.
  - ❖ User must be familiar with using a digital trunked radio system.
  - ❖ If the affiliated tower site is in site trunking mode, communication will be limited for those users affiliated with the affected tower site.

- **Operational Context:**
  - ❖ As the statewide digital trunked radio system, AWIN should be the primary means of communication between responding agencies for interoperability.

- **Recommended Protocol and Standard**
  - ❖ Proper FCC and AWIN radio protocol shall be followed at all times.
  - ❖ NIMS standards must be followed.

- **Recommended Procedure:**
  - ❖ ICS will be used as an operational guide at incidents where an AWIN MAC channel is requested, assigned and activated.
  - ❖ Any request for a MAC channel assignment will be made to ADEM on the AWIN MAC CALL channel or by other means. Justification for the channel will be given to ADEM. This information includes: name of entity making the request, the reason for the request and the affected area.
  - ❖ ADEM will assign the MAC Channel, or for a large scale disaster another interoperable AWIN channel.
  - ❖ ADEM will clearly announce the assignment of the AWIN MAC Channel on the AWIN MAC CALL Channel unless the channel needs to be confidential
  - ❖ When it's determined that the AWIN MAC Channel is no longer needed, the IC will ensure that ADEM is notified. On MAC CALL, ADEM will clearly announce the AWIN MAC Channel has been relinquished
  - ❖ All radio communications with ADEM concerning AWIN MAC Channel assignments will be conducted on MAC CALL
  - ❖ If transmissions on a MAC Channel are of a nature that would pose imminent danger, they should be communicated between dispatch communications centers.
  - ❖ Limited activation is appropriate when an incident can be resolved by public safety and/or public service agencies.
  - ❖ Full activation is appropriate when an incident requires the activation of the Emergency Operations Center.