



PHYSICAL THREAT BULLETINS

Physical Security Bulletin - Derecho Risk to Return to Central United States



TLP:WHITE

Jun 29, 2023

Summary:

Recently Accu Weather meteorologists have been monitoring a potential high-powered, long tracking and fast-moving batch of thunderstorms to develop later this week across parts of the central United States, known as a derecho. While a derecho acts much like an inland hurricane, in order to be classified as such, the storms must travel 400 miles or more with a width of at least 60 miles and produce damage nearly continuously along its path.

It is expected that thunderstorms will erupt Thursday afternoon, north of the rim of the heat dome that is currently impacting Texas and the southern Plains. Nebraska, northern Kansas, northwestern Missouri, and southwestern Iowa are expected to be at the greatest risk for severe thunderstorms Thursday afternoon and evening. If these storms continue to evolve throughout Thursday, it is possible that parts of the Mississippi valley and portions of the Ohio or Tennessee valleys could face large storms on Friday.

The initial eruption of the storms and their intensity will determine how long the storms will persist and the areas that will be impacted throughout the rest of the week. It is also expected that portions of Illinois, Indiana, western Ohio and Kentucky are also expected to see intense thunderstorms on Thursday. While the declaration of a derecho event is still uncertain, the National Weather Service indicates that there will be a significant risk to lives and property from the thunderstorms this week.



Analysis:

While the heat dome over the South-Central states is expected to break down over the weekend and the risk of a derecho should be lowered, intense weather patterns are still predicted. The great threat is predicted to be from localized damaging wind gusts from 65-70 miles per hour with a max of 90 miles per hour. Flash flooding, large hail, and isolated tornadoes are also predicted.

If an intense storm does evolve Thursday afternoon, it is forecasted to last throughout the night. There are multiple areas in which thunderstorms could potentially merge into dangerous and far-reaching complexes, it is possible some locations could be hit by two rounds of dangerous thunderstorms within 12 hours.

Mitigation:

The National Weather Service has not officially declared a derecho event. However, individuals and facilities should continue to monitor weather advisories for their area. It is possible that facilities may lose

power if a particularly strong storm were to sweep over the area, back-up power supplies should be examined to ensure that they are running properly. Facilities should also prepare for an increased number of weather-related injuries, especially in areas that experience large hail or a tornado. Facilities that can purchase sandbags and bottled water should do so in the event of flash flooding or a water outage.

Sources:

<https://www.accuweather.com/en/severe-weather/derecho-risk-to-return-to-central-us-later-this-week/1549197>

<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/derecho-risk-return-central-us-180653434.html>

<https://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook/day1otlk.html>

Reference(s)

[accuweather](#), [Yahoo! Finance](#), [noaa](#)

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Tags Derecho, Storms, Power Outage, Severe Weather

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