



Success Story - Train Saved From Tornado

THE STORY

March 13, 2006 | Prairie, MS

- **2:42 p.m. CST** - WeatherData meteorologists proactively issued a tornado warning, valid 3:07 p.m. to 3:35 p.m., to Kansas City Southern Railway stating "a tornado is on the ground approaching the track! A tornadic thunderstorm is approaching track from the west! Extreme caution is advised!"
- **3:15 p.m. CST** - According to the National Weather Service (NWS) Local Storm Report, "eyewitnesses reported traffic stopped along US Hwy 45 to watch a large tornado near the Clay...Monroe County line."
- **3:20 p.m. CST** - The NWS issued a countywide 'Tornado Warning' for Monroe County, valid until 3:45 p.m., stating "NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED A TORNADO NEAR PRAIRIE...OR ABOUT 11 MILES NORTHWEST OF WEST POINT...MOVING EAST AT 35 MPH."

The NWS issued the tornado warning for Monroe County **5 minutes after the large tornado was spotted** at the county line.

By using WeatherData, Kansas City Southern Railway had **33 minutes lead time**, to stop trains from traveling on track in the affected area, which was located only 3 miles away from where the tornado was spotted and exactly where the large tornado was headed.

Had Kansas City Southern Railway relied on the National Weather Service or a system based on NWS warnings, their warning system would have resulted in complete failure. Had a train been traveling on the track, the tornado would have caused a major derailment and possible life-threatening injuries to train personnel.

Why is this important to you?

Timely, accurate, site-specific information is necessary when protecting your business and personnel from weather hazards. Warnings are only viable when you receive them before the hazard *and* when you have enough time to prepare.

Also problematic is the fact that NWS warnings begin at the moment they are issued for the entire county with no real way to judge how much lead time there is to prepare or if you are truly in an affected area. Many organizations using NWS warnings simply shutdown, not knowing when or even if they are in harms way. With WeatherData, you can avoid costly, unnecessary shutdowns and receive customized, site-specific information tailored to your business needs.

Call WeatherData today...the next storm is already on its way.



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Act Now

A recent study from MIT calls tornadoes and similar hazards "low probability/high impact" events. We can't stop the hazards. But, with our proactive risk mitigation, we **can** help you change the impact from "high" to "lower" – or even zero. *However, once the disaster occurs, it is too late to prepare.*

Be proactive in identifying and preventing potential problems.

Call or email WeatherData today.