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Mesoscale Discussion 567

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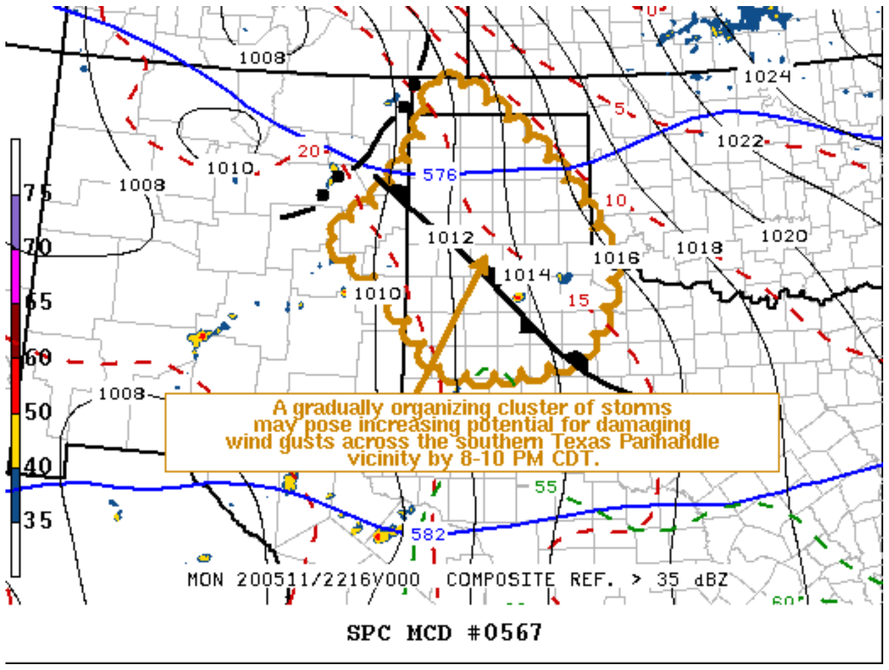

Mesoscale Discussion 0567
NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK
0531 PM CDT Mon May 11 2020

Areas affected...Parts of northeastern New Mexico...Texas Panhandle and South Plains...adjacent western Oklahoma

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch possible

Valid 112231Z - 120030Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...60 percent

SUMMARY...A southeastward advancing line of storms may continue to gradually intensify and organize while spreading into and across the Texas Panhandle vicinity through 8-10 PM. A severe weather watch seems probable at some point, although it remains uncertain how soon.

DISCUSSION...An arcing line of thunderstorms continues to evolve and spread southeastward away from the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. This appears to be on the southern periphery of a mid-level short wave trough now digging east of the Colorado/northern New Mexico Rockies. Activity appears to be advancing through a narrow corridor of stronger boundary layer heating, which has contributed to some recent intensification, but low-level moisture and CAPE are fairly modest.

Better low-level moisture return on southerly low-level flow across the Texas South Plains is contributing to more substantive mixed-layer CAPE as far north as a remnant stalled frontal zone/zone of stronger differential surface heating, near/north of the Lubbock area. The baroclinic zone extends northwestward toward the Raton Mesa vicinitiy, and low-level warm advection along/above the cooler boundary-layer air to the north of the front may contribute to a continued gradual upscale convective growth and intensification of the southeastward advancing ongoing line of storms into early evening.

Although CAPE along/above the front north-northwest of Lubbock may be more modest, strengthening southeasterly low-level flow beneath northwesterly mid-level flow will contribute to strong deep-layer. This will provide support for increasing convective organization which may be accompanied by increasing potential for strong surface gusts across at least southern portions of the Texas Panhandle through 01-03Z, much as recently depicted by the High Resolution Rapid Refresh.

..Kerr/Grams.. 05/11/2020

...Please see www.spc.noaa.gov for graphic product...

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