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Storm Prediction Center

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Mesoscale Discussion 0683 NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK 0218 PM CDT Sat May 23 2020

Areas affected...portions of the Texas South Plains and Oklahoma/Texas Panhandles

Concerning...Severe potential...Watch likely

Valid 231918Z - 232115Z

Probability of Watch Issuance...80 percent

SUMMARY...Storms are expected to develop along a sharpening dryline along the western part of the discussion area. Significant hail and damaging wind gusts are possible with any storm. A WW issuance is likely this afternoon.

DISCUSSION...Recent satellite imagery indicates an axis of towering cumulus along a dryline extending from near BGD south-southwestward to near the New Mexico/Texas border south of CVS. Point forecast soundings and objective analyses indicate that convective inhibition in the region has been removed, with steep lapse rates throughout the troposphere and 50s F dewpoints contributing to 2000-4000+ J/kg MUCAPE - highest just east of the dryline where surface dewpoints are slightly higher. Strong low-level flow - veering to southwesterly with height - should foster organized convective development with potential for significant hail and damaging wind gusts with any mature storm. An isolated tornado cannot be ruled out, though modest mid-level flow may mitigate this risk. Storms should form along the dryline and near the I-27 corridor in the next 1-2 hours and migrate northeastward, potentially evolving into a mix of linear segments and clusters through the afternoon.

Given the ongoing convective scenario, a Severe Thunderstorm Watch issuance is expected in the next 1-2 hours or so.

..Cook/Hart.. 05/23/2020

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

ATTN...WFO...OUN...DDC...LUB...AMA...MAF...

LAT...LON 32560282 33400276 34570250 35900174 36750132 37140071 37140004 36809963 36069961 35119981 34129998 33220041 32660119 32430226 32480263 32560282

Top/All Mesoscale Discussions/Forecast Products/Home

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