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NEK Hit by Storms, Tornadoes

(MSC News)-- Severe weather spawning several tornadoes were reported in northeast Kansas Thursday afternoon.

In Pottawatomie County, at least two confirmed tornadoes were reported. One passed over Wamego and another passed through rural areas near Wamego and Louisville.

According to the Wamego Police Department, the apparent tornado in Wamego didn't hit any homes directly, but downed trees and power lines. The Pottawatomie County Sheriff's Office says several homes were damaged in rural areas of the county. No injuries were reported.

A late afternoon tornado warning in the Kansas City area prompted a brief precautionary evacuation of Kansas City International Airport in Missouri, forcing travelers and other visitors into parking garage tunnels. The airport was back in operation by early evening.

The area was on high alert a day after a half-mile-wide tornado stayed on the ground for about 90 minutes in Dickinson County Wednesday night and traveled 26 miles. The National Weather Service says the tornado that damaged or destroyed about 20 homes was an EF4 with estimated peak winds of 180 mph.

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