

NOUS41 KWBC 231615
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-112
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1115 AM EST Mon Nov 12 2020

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Jason Levit, Chief
 Verification, Post-Processing, Product Generation
 Branch, NCEP/Environmental Modeling Center

Subject: Termination of gaugeQC Products: Effective January 5,
2021

Effective on or about January 5, 2021, at 1200 Coordinated
Universal Time (UTC), the National Centers for Environmental
Prediction (NCEP) will terminate the gaugeQC products from real-
time distribution.

NWS will remove the following products from NCEP Web Services,
including the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution
System (NOMADS) and FTP:

For FTP and NOMADS, the following gaugeqc directories and their
contents will be removed:

<ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data1/nccf/com/hourly/prod/gaugeqc/>
<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data1/nccf/com/hourly/prod/gaugeqc/>

The gaugeqc directory in the above ftp and nomads sites contain
four files, created each day around 04:06 UTC:

current.eval: gauges flagged as questionable
current.evalH: hourly gauges flagged as questionable (a subset
of current.eval, with latitude/longitude information added)
current.good: gauges passed quality control check
current.goodH: hourly gauges passed quality control check (a
subset of current.good, with latitude/longitude information
added)

Explanations above the QC flags in the above good/eval[H] gauge listings:

https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/gaugeqc_collander_readme.pdf

The gaugeQC program was developed by the Earth Systems Research Laboratory (ESRL) with the Environmental Modeling Center (EMC): <https://ams.confex.com/ams/pdfpapers/95173.pdf> in the mid 2000's and used by the NCEP Stage II quantitative precipitation estimation (QPE) analysis (at the time the sole source for pcpRTMA) to screen out questionable hourly gauges. With Real Time Mesoscale Analysis (RTMA)/Unrestricted Mesoscale Analysis (URMA) v2.8, implemented in late June 2020, pcpRTMA began using Multi-Radar, Multi-System (MRMS) QPE as its source, and the Stage II analysis was discontinued (MRMS QPE has fully matured and can replace the Stage II). With the decommission of the Stage II, the gaugeQC program is no longer needed, and since its function has been subsumed by the Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System (MADIS) and MRMS' gaugeQC function, we will discontinue this gaugeQC program.

If you have questions regarding this change, please contact:

Jason Levit
NWS/NCEP Environmental Modeling Center
College Park, MD
jason.levit@noaa.gov

If you have questions regarding the data flow aspects, please contact:

Anne Myckow
NWS/NCEP Central Operations
College Park, MD
ncep.pmb.dataflow@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

NNNN