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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
210 PM EST DEC 01 2004

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER  
WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...EMERGENCY MANAGERS  
WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS...  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS...OTHER NATIONAL  
WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...  
NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: EDWARD JOHNSON  
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS

SUBJECT:NEW NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
POLICY ON PARTNERSHIPS IN THE PROVISION OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION: EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 01 2004.

THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION /NOAA/ HAS  
ADOPTED A POLICY REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION  
ACTIVITIES OF NOAA PROGRAMS...INCLUDING NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
/NWS/ ACTIVITIES. THIS NEW POLICY IS INTENDED TO STRENGTHEN THE  
EXISTING PARTNERSHIP AMONG GOVERNMENT... ACADEMIA AND THE PRIVATE  
SECTOR WHICH PROVIDES THE NATION WITH HIGH QUALITY ENVIRONMENTAL  
INFORMATION.

THE NEW POLICY RESPONDS TO RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN A STUDY  
BY THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL /NRC/...FAIR WEATHER: EFFECTIVE  
PARTNERSHIPS IN WEATHER AND CLIMATE SERVICES /NATIONAL ACADEMY  
PRESS 2003/. THE NRC STUDY AND THE NEED FOR A NEW POLICY WAS BRED  
FROM A RECOGNITION THAT THE U.S. WEATHER AND CLIMATE ENTERPRISE -  
CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BEST IN THE WORLD - IS COMPOSED OF A  
DYNAMIC PARTNERSHIP AMONG ENTITIES ENGAGED IN COMPLEMENTARY AND  
SOMETIMES OVERLAPPING ACTIVITIES. AMONG ITS CHIEF  
RECOMMENDATIONS...THE NRC IDENTIFIED THE NEED FOR A POLICY THAT  
WOULD RECOGNIZE ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY AND RELEVANT LAW...AND  
THAT WOULD DEFINE PROCESSES FOR DECISION MAKING RATHER THAN  
DEFINING ROLES.

NOAA RELEASED THE PROPOSED POLICY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT IN JANUARY  
OF THIS YEAR. A TOTAL OF 1473 COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED AND ALL WERE  
CONSIDERED IN DEVELOPING THE NOAA POLICY ISSUED TODAY.

YOU MAY ACCESS THE NEW POLICY STATEMENT AT THE FOLLOWING WEB  
ADDRESS /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NOAA.GOV/PARTNERSHIPPOLICY/](http://www.noaa.gov/partnershippolicy/)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND A LISTING OF COMMENTS ON THE ORIGINAL

DRAFT ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESS /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/FAIRWEATHER/](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/fairweather/)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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THIS AND OTHER NOTIFICATION MESSAGES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm)

THIS MESSAGE IS LISTED AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE ABOVE THE SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES.

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