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Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
305 PM EDT Tue Sep 1 2015

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From: Robert Bunge
 Office of Dissemination

Subject: Soliciting Comments until October 2, 2015 on the Proposed
Termination of the Family of Services (FOS) Program

The National Weather Service (NWS) is accepting comments until October 2, 2015, on its proposal to terminate the Family of Services (FOS) program. As part of the deployment of the NWS Integrated Dissemination Project (IDP), the physical host of FOS, the NWS Telecommunications Gateway (NWSTG) will be decommissioned after other NWSTG functions are migrated to IDP. Additionally, difficulty in accepting and applying funds from the private sector to the FOS service has contributed to this proposal.

All data available to FOS customers are hosted on publicly available systems, including servers hosted on the new IDP platform, making the data available to FOS customers at no cost. IDP provides a level of availability and reliability of NWS dissemination services that was not otherwise obtainable at the time FOS was initiated. NWSTG systems will be decommissioned in late 2016, providing several months for FOS customers to migrate to IDP services.

The NWS continues to value its partnership with current FOS customers and is fully committed to providing a high level of customer service for all weather enterprise customers as they begin to transition to the operational services provided by IDP.

NWS is accepting comments on this proposed termination through October 2, 2015. After a review of all comments received, NWS will make a decision whether or not to terminate the FOS program.

Comments can be made via email to the following:

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