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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
210 PM EST WED DEC 1 2004

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/  
SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS  
OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND 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 1 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/:

[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/:

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

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENTS ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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