




May 12, 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Jane Lubchenco
Under Secretary of Commerce
for Oceans and Atmosphere and
NOAA Administrator

Mary M. Glackin
Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce
for Oceans and Atmosphere

FROM: Allen Crawley 
Assistant Inspector General
for Systems Acquisition and IT Security

SUBJECT: FISMA Evaluation of NOAA Net Wide Area
Network (NOAA8204)

As part of our work under the Federal Information Security Management Act, we plan to evaluate NWS' certification and accreditation (C&A) of NOAA8204.

Our objectives are to determine whether (1) implemented controls adequately protect the system and its information, (2) continuous monitoring is keeping the authorizing official sufficiently informed about the operational status and effectiveness of security controls, and (3) the C&A process produced sufficient information about remaining system vulnerabilities to enable the authorizing official to make a credible, risk-based accreditation decision.

As a first step in our evaluation, we will be contacting your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. In the meantime, if you have any questions about this review, please contact me at (202) 482-1855.

cc: Dr. Jack L. Hayes, NWS assistant administrator for weather services
Joe Klimavicz, NOAA chief information officer
Adrian R. Gardner, NWS chief information officer
Mack Cato, director, NOAA Audit Control and Information Management Office