



December 9, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere
and NOAA Administrator

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

SUBJECT: Audit of Joint Polar Satellite System Program Performance and Polar
Follow-On Baseline Establishment

We are initiating an audit of NOAA's Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) and Polar Follow-On (PFO) programs. Our objectives are to assess the cost, schedule, and technical performance of selected components of the JPSS program, as well as the establishment of PFO program baselines.

We intend to hold an entrance conference in early January 2017, at which time we will discuss our objectives in more detail. In the meantime, we will begin coordinating with managers from the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and the JPSS program to request documents and other information. In addition, we have been observing the Department's Acquisition Milestone Review Board meetings and reviewing documentation related to the establishment of a PFO baseline commitment agreement.

If you have any questions regarding this work, please contact me at (202) 482-1855 or Fred Meny, Director, Satellites and Weather Systems, at (202) 482-1931. We thank you in advance for your cooperation during this effort.

cc: Bruce Andrews, Deputy Secretary of Commerce
Ellen Herbst, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration
Manson K. Brown, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and
Prediction/Deputy Administrator, NOAA
Benjamin Friedman, Deputy Under Secretary for Operations, NOAA
Dr. Stephen Volz, Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services, NOAA
Mack Cato, Audit Liaison, NOAA