



August 14, 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: Benjamin Friedman
Deputy Under Secretary for Operations
Performing the Duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for
Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frederick J. Meny, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

FROM: Frederick J. Meny, Jr.
Acting Assistant Inspector General for Systems Acquisition
and IT Security

SUBJECT: Audit of GOES-R Development, Testing, and Transition into
Operations

As part of our fiscal year 2017 work plan, and in accordance with our most recent report on the top management challenges facing the Department of Commerce, we are initiating an audit of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-R Series (GOES-R) development, launch, and transition into operations.

Our objective is to assess the adequacy of GOES-S, -T, and -U development and testing, and GOES-16 transition into operations, per NOAA and National Aeronautics and Space Administration standards. We will also monitor NOAA's progress in developing and reporting on flight and ground segment contracting actions and changes to minimize cost increases.

We plan to begin this work immediately. We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. If you have any questions regarding this audit, please contact me at (202) 482-1931. We thank you in advance for your cooperation during this review.

cc: Stephen Volz, Assistant Administrator, National Environmental Satellite, Data, and
Information Services, NOAA
Michael Stringer, Acting GOES-R System Program Director, NOAA
Mack Cato, Director, Office of Audit and Information Management, NOAA