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 Environmental Satellite
   Processing Center (NOAA5045)

As part of our work under the Federal Information Security Management Act, we plan to
evaluate NESDIS’ certification and accreditation (C&A) of NOAA5045.

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: Mary E. Kicza, NESDIS assistant administrator for satellite and information
   services
   Joe Klimavicz, NOAA chief information officer
   Zachary Goldstein, NESDIS chief information officer
   Mack Cato, director, NOAA Audit Control and Information Management Office