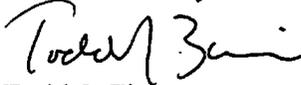




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
The Inspector General
Washington, D.C. 20230

March 19, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Jane Lubchenco, Ph.D.
Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere

FROM: 
Todd J. Zinser
Inspector General

SUBJECT: Evaluation of Acquisition of Facilities for the
Marine Operations Center—Pacific

In response to a request from Senator Maria Cantwell, Chair of the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard, and Senator Olympia J. Snowe, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard, the Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General has scheduled an inspection of the procurement of facilities for the Marine Operations Center-Pacific (MOC-P). This inspection will be conducted under the authority of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, and Department Organization Order 10-13, dated May 22, 1980, as amended.

The objective of our evaluation is to determine whether the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) acquisition of facilities to house MOC-P adhered to federal, departmental, and NOAA requirements. Criteria we will use in conducting our review will include applicable federal procurement laws and regulations and NOAA's Facility Capital Planning and Project Management Manual.

We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference, at which time we will provide additional information regarding the inspection and our logistical requirements. Following the entrance conference, please make available to us key staff and all relevant administrative records. If you have any questions regarding this inspection, please contact David Sheppard, Regional Inspector General for Audit, at (206) 220-7970 or Dr. Brett M. Baker, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, at (202) 482-2600. We appreciate NOAA's cooperation.

cc: William F. Broglie, NOAA Chief Administrative Officer
Mack Cato, NOAA Director, Audit, Internal Control & Information Management Office

