



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of Inspector General

Washington, D.C. 20230

January 17, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Jane Lubchenco
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 NOAA's Geostationary Operational Environmental
Satellite – R Series

As part of our FY2012 work plan we plan to audit NOAA's Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite – R Series (GOES-R) program which has an estimated cost of \$10.9 billion for four satellites.

Our objectives are to assess the adequacy of contract management and administration and the effectiveness of management's direction, monitoring, and collaboration for development of select components in the GOES-R program. Our review will include assessment of key contracts' terms, modifications, and amendments as well as their impacts on schedule and costs. We will also assess select components and integration efforts between the ground and space segments by evaluating management's ability to provide direction, monitoring, and collaboration in areas such as project management and program system engineering.

We will contact 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 or Fred Meny, Director for Satellites and Weather Systems, at (202) 482-1931. We appreciate the cooperation of your staff during this audit.

cc: Charles Baker, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Operations, NOAA
Christopher Scolese, Associate Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space
Administration
Mary E. Kicza, Assistant Administrator, National Environmental Satellite, Data, and
Information Service, NOAA
Mack Cato, Director, Office of Audit and Information Management, NOAA