SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority to the Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Services

TO: Financial Management Centers

1. Legislation: As a result of legislative enactments or pursuant to Reorganization Plan No. 4 of 1970, the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to perform certain oceanic and atmospheric services pursuant to the following statutory provisions:

   a. Title 7, United States Code, Sections 450(b), 2220 [cooperative agreements relating to weather].

   b. Title 15, United States Code, Sections 311-328, 1514 [weather services and general services for employees at remote locations].

   c. Title 33, United States Code, Sections 706, 883a-f [hydroclimatic network and surveys].

   d. Title 49, United States Code, Sections 1151-1155, 1157-1159, 1160, 1463 [aviation weather].

   e. P.L. 91-144 [surveys of the Great Lakes and a Great Lakes regional data center].

2. Other Authorities: The Secretary of Commerce also is authorized to perform other services pursuant to the following authorities:

   a. Executive Order 10480 [emergency preparedness].

   b. Executive Order 11023, paragraph 1(1) [employment of public vessels].

   c. Executive Order 11490 as amended, Sections 901(3) (2, b), 905, 906 [emergency preparedness].

   d. Executive Order 11564 [National Oceanographic Data Center, instrumentation, data buoy, Great Lakes survey].

   e. OMB Circular A-62, November 13, 1963, Sections 3 and 4 [coordination of meteorological services].

   f. OMB Circular A-16, May 6, 1967, Sections 3b and 4 [National geodetic control].
g. 42 U.S.C. Sec. 5132 as delegated by Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to Secretary of Commerce by 40 FR 42769 [disaster warnings].

3. Delegation to the Administrator of NOAA: By Section 3.01 of Department of Commerce Organization Order 25-5A (DOO 25-5A) at subsections a, b, d, e, f, g, k, p, q, r, t, and cc, the Secretary has delegated, with certain reservations, all of the authority specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Circular to the Administrator. In addition, by Section 3.02 of DOO 25-5A, the Secretary has delegated to the Administrator such additional authorities of the Secretary, not enumerated, as are necessary to perform the functions assigned in the Order. Section 3.03 of DOO 25-5A authorizes the Administrator to redelegated these authorities to any employee of NOAA.

4. Reservation of authority by the Secretary: The Secretary has reserved authority to provide general policy guidance to the Administrator and to consult with the Administrator to the extent permitted by law concerning the Administrator's functions.

5. Delegation to the Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Services: With the reservations specified herein, all authority vested in the Secretary of Commerce as specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Circular and delegated to the Administrator as specified in paragraph 3 of this Circular is hereby delegated to the Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Services. This authority may be redelegated to any employee of NOAA by publication of a NOAA circular.

6. Reservation of Authority by the Administrator: The Administrator hereby reserves the authority to:

   a. approve all redelegations of any authority specified herein.

   b. provide general policy guidance to, and consult with, the Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Services to the extent permitted by law concerning the Assistant Administrator's functions.

7. Exception: By Circular 77-86, filed as NDM 05-70, the Administrator has delegated those functions transferred by Executive Order 11564 relating to the operation of the National Oceanographic Instrumentation Center and the National Data Buoy Development Project to the Assistant Administrator for Research and Development.

8. Effective Date: The provisions of this Circular are effective November 6, 1977.

Richard A. Frank  
Administrator