



November 9, 2020

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Neil Jacobs  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation  
and Prediction, performing the duties of Under Secretary of  
Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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

**FROM:** Frederick J. Meny, Jr.  
Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

**SUBJECT:** Audit of the Next-Generation Satellite System Architecture  
Planning and Implementation (#2021-387)

We are initiating an audit of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) efforts to develop its future satellite systems. Our objective is to assess NOAA's progress planning and implementing its next-generation satellite system architecture.

We intend to hold an entrance conference in mid-November 2020, at which time we will discuss our objective in more detail. In the meantime, we will begin coordinating with the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service and related Satellite Operation and Acquisition programs to request documents and other information.

If you have any questions regarding this work, please contact me at (202) 482-1931 or Kevin Ryan, Director for Satellites and Weather Systems, at (202) 695-0791.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation during this effort.

cc: Benjamin Friedman, Deputy Under Secretary for Operations, NOAA  
Stephen Volz, Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services, NOAA  
Vanessa Griffin, Director of Systems Architecture and Advanced Planning, NOAA  
Katina Felts, Acting Audit Liaison, NOAA  
Brian Doss, Alternate Audit Liaison, NOAA  
Lisa Lim, Alternate Audit Liaison, NOAA  
MaryAnn Mausser, Audit Liaison, Office of the Secretary