final determination may participate in the panel review by filing a Notice of Appearance in accordance with rule 40 within 45 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Notice of Appearance is March 27, 1995); and

(c) the panel review shall be limited to the allegations of error of fact or law, including the jurisdiction of the investigating authority, that are set out in the Complaints filed in the panel review and the procedural and substantive defenses raised in the panel review.

Dated: February 17, 1995.

Caratina L. Alston,

Deputy U.S. Secretary NAFTA Secretariat. [FR Doc. 95–4459 Filed 2–22–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 3510-GT-M

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

SUBJECT: National Weather Service Modernization and Associated Restructuring. ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY; On November 4, 1994, the Department of Commerce requested comments identifying service areas where it is believed that current weather services may be degraded as existing radars are decommissioned or as field offices are closed, consolidated, automated or relocated during the modernization of the National Weather Service (59 FR 55254). Appendix 1 to the November 4, 1994 notice contained Study Guidelines which specified the procedures the Secretary of Commerce will follow during modernization of the National Weather Service with respect to the identified areas of concern.

Today's notice lists the areas of concern that were identified as a result of the comments that were received, briefly describes the remaining steps in the process, and reiterates the modernization actions that are prohibited in an identified area of concern until the process described in the Study Guidelines is completed. Appendix 1 to this notice contains the complete Study Guidelines. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Scanlon at 301-713-1413 or Nick Scheller at 301-713-0454. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public Comments Received: Over 67,000 written comments were received during the 60 day public comment period which closed on January 3, 1995. Written comments were in the form of letters, postcards, facsimile

transmissions, electronic mail messages, and signed petitions. The Secretary of

Commerce appreciates the thoughtful and valuable inputs on the National Weather Service and its modernization program that were contained in the comments. All such comments have been forwarded to the National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council (NRC) for consideration during their study on the adequacy of planned NEXRAD radar coverage and the effect of field office consolidation. A number of late comments were also received, i.e., postmarked after January 3, 1995. These late comments have been forwarded to the NRC for whatever consideration they may choose to give them

Areas of Concern: Under the provisions of the Study Guidelines, a single timely comment was sufficient to establish an area as an area of concern. The areas of concern identified are listed below.

Areas of Concern

WSO Asheville, NC WSO Astoria, OR WSO Athens, GA WSO Baton Rouge, LA WSO Cape Hatteras, NC WSO Caribou, ME WSO Charlotte. NC WSO Chattanooga, TN WSO Colorado Springs, CO WSO Del Rio, TX WSO Elkins. WV WSO Erie, PA WSO Evansville, IN WSO Fort Smith, AR WSO Fort Wayne, IN WSO Grand Island, NE WSO Greensboro, NC WSO Harrisburg, PA WSO Huntsville, AL WSO International Falls, MN WSO Kalispell, MT WSO Key Ŵest, FL WSO Lexington, KY WSO Montgomery, AL WSO Redding, CA WSO South Bend, IN WSO Toledo, OH WSO Wichita Falls, TX WSO Williston, ND WSO Wilmington, DE WSO Hondo, TX central Oregon/central Washington

Generally, areas of concern are denoted by National Weather Service Offices (WSO) and extend throughout the pre-modernization geographical area for which what WSO was responsible for providing weather services. One area is denoted by a National Weather Service Meteorological Observatory (WSMO) and extends throughout the area for which the existing radar operated by that WSMO provides coverage. The final area of concern listed is identified as central Oregon/ central Washington. The concerns expressed for this area was not about any specific existing radar or weather office, but rather about the general adequacy of NEXRAD coverage in central Oregon and central Washington under the planned NEXRAD network.

Remaining Steps in the Process: The NRC will continue the study it began in October 1994 under an amendment to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration contract #50-DGNW-0-00041. This study is an independent scientific assessment of proposed NEXRAD radar coverage and consolidation of field offices in terms of the "no degradation of services" requirement of Public Law 102-567, and in light of public comments received. The NRC will also establish criteria for identifying service areas where the decommissioning of existing radars could degrade services. The NRC will document its findings and recommendations in a report to the Secretary of Commerce. The contractually specific date for delivery of this report is May 17, 1995. The Study Guidelines' due date of 180 days for delivery of this report could not be achieved by the NRC.

The Secretary of Commerce will then apply the NRC's criteria, and other applicable criteria previously approved by the NRC pursuant to the Weather Service Modernization Act. to the above identified areas of concern, and taking into account public comments received, will identify where actions to decommission a radar, or to close, consolidate. relocate. or automate a field office are not likely to satisfy the "no degradation of services" requirement of Public Law 102-567. The Secretary of Commerce will document any recommended adjustments to the National Weather Service modernization plan for these areas of concern to ensure "no degradation of services" in a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives. The estimated time frame for delivery of this report is fall 1995.

Prohibited Actions in an Area of Concern: Until the above process is completed and a 30-day grace period from the date of the Secretary of Commerce's report to Congress has elapsed, there will be no decommissioning of any existing radar; or closure, consolidation, relocation, or automation certification at any of the weather offices identified as areas of concern as listed above.