Harry S. Hassel

Date

Attachments

10159 E. 11th Street, Suite 300

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74128-3050

Memorandum for: Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region

From: Donald R. Devore, MIC, NWSO Tulsa Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

A change of operations occurred at the Tulsa Weather Service Office (WSO) in March, 1992 when most personnel were transferred to the facility of the future Tulsa Weather Forecast Office in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to operate the WSR–88D and assume forecast and warning responsibility for the Tulsa service area. At the same time, this office was designated a Residual Weather Service Office (RWSO) at the original WSO location to continue operating the existing WSR–74C radar and recording surface observations.

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, that consolidation of the Tulsa Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Tulsa Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Tulsa service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

- 1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Tulsa service area is included as Attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from Tulsa WFO will not degrade these services.
- 2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Tulsa service area from the Tulsa WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the Tulsa WFO location after consolidation is included as Attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Tulsa Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Tulsa Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.
- 3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Tulsa service area is included as Attachment C. The new Technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and

AWIPS) has been or will be installed and will enhance services.

- 4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Oklahoma is included as Attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Tulsa service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.
- 5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.
- A. The WSR–88D RADAR Commissioning Report, Attachment E, validates that the WSR–88D meets technical specifications (acceptance test); is fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but two national work-arounds remain in effect.
- B. The User Confirmation of Services, Attachment F, documents that only one negative comment was received. The negative comment has been answered to the satisfaction of the commentator as stated in the Service Confirmation Report.
- C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, Attachment G, verifies that the existing Tulsa WSR-74C radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.
- 6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Tulsa service area is included as Attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (Attachment J). On ____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (Attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

I, Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Harry S. Hassel.

Endorsement

Date

Attachments
NEXRAD Forecast Office
PAB 500
P.O. Box 52025
Phoenix, Arizona 85072–2025

Memorandum for: W/WR—Thomas D. Potter From: Anton F. Haffer, Arizona Area

Manager

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

A change of operations occurred at the Phoenix Weather Service Forecast Office (WSFO) in May 1991 when most personnel were transferred to the facility of the future Phoenix Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Tempe, Arizona to operate the WSR–88D and assume forecast and warning responsibility

for the Phoenix service area. At the same time, the office at the original WSFO location was designated a Residual Weather Service Office (RWSO) to continue operating the WSR-74C radar.

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgment, consolidation of the Phoenix Residual Weather Service Office (RWSO) with the future Phoenix Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Phoenix service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending that you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

- 1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the pre-modernized Phoenix service area is included as attachment A. The Phoenix service area is unique with 24-hour per day responsibility for Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Maricopa, Mohave, Pinal, and Yavapai Counties, and part-time responsibility, generally night-time hours, for Apache, Coconino, La Paz, Navajo, and Yuma Counties. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the Phoenix WFO will not degrade these services.
- 2. A detailed list of the services currently provided from the Phoenix RWSO location and comparable services to be provided from the Phoenix WFO location after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. ASOS observations are currently augmented by NWS personnel, with augmentation scheduled to be taken over by a contractor. I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.
- 3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the pre-modernized Phoenix service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR–88D, and AWIPS) has, or will be, installed and will enhance services.
- 4. A map showing planned WSR-88D coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Arizona is included as attachment D. The NWS operational radar coverage for the Phoenix WFO service area will be vastly increased and will not degrade services.
- 5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in