

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 Atlantic City 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for New Jersey and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Atlantic City 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 from Philadelphia, attachment E validate that the WSR-88D meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from Philadelphia, attachment F, document that no negative comments were received for the Philadelphia NWSFO area related.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Atlantic City WSR-57 radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Atlantic City service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From: Chet Henriksen, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Philadelphia, PA

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached document, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the Weather Service Office (WSO) Wilmington, DE with the future Philadelphia Weather Forecast

Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Wilmington 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 Wilmington service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Philadelphia WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Wilmington service area from WSO Wilmington location and a list of services to be provided from the future Philadelphia WFO location after the proposed consolidation is included in 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 Wilmington Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Philadelphia 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 Wilmington 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Delaware and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Delaware 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 Reports from Philadelphia, attachment E validate that the WSR-88D meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from Philadelphia, attachment F, document that no negative comments were received for the Philadelphia NWSFO area related.

C. WSO Wilmington does not have a radar, therefore, the Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not necessary for this report.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Wilmington service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

Attachments

[FR Doc. 96-3379 Filed 2-13-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-M

### National Weather Service Modernization and Associated Restructuring

**ACTION:** Notice and opportunity for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The National Weather Service (NWS) is publishing proposed certifications for the proposed consolidations of:

- (1) Residual Portland, ME Weather Service Office (RWSO) into the future Portland, ME WFO;
- (2) Concord Weather Service Office (WSO) into the future Portland, ME and Boston Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs);
- (3) Mansfield WSO into the future Cleveland WFO;
- (4) Youngstown WSO into the future Cleveland and Pittsburgh WFOs;
- (5) Dayton WSO into the future Cincinnati WFO;
- (6) Toledo WSO into the future Cleveland and Cincinnati WFOs;
- (7) Lynchburg WSO into the future Roanoke WFO;
- (8) Roanoke WSO into the future Roanoke WFO;
- (9) Cape Hatteras WSO into the future Morehead City and Wakefield WFOs;
- (10) Akron WSO into the future Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Charleston, WV WFOs;
- (11) Columbus, OH WSO into the future Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Charleston, WV WFOs;

(12) Harrisburg WSO into the future Central Pennsylvania WFO; and  
 (13) Williamsport WSO into the future Central Pennsylvania and Binghamton WFOs.

In accordance with Public Law 102-567, the public will have 60-days in which to comment on these proposed consolidation certifications.

**DATES:** Comments are requested by April 15, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for copies of the proposed consolidation packages should be sent to Janet Gilmer, Room 12316, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, telephone 301-713-0276. All comments should be sent to Janet Gilmer at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie Scanlon at 301-713-1413.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:** NWS anticipates consolidating:

(1) The Residual Portland, ME Weather Service Forecast Office (WSFO) with the future Portland, ME WFO;

(2) The Concord Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Portland, ME and Boston Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs);

(3) The Mansfield WSO with the future Cleveland WFO;

(4) The Youngstown WSO with the future Cleveland and Pittsburgh WFOs;

(5) The Dayton WSO with the future Cincinnati WFO;

(6) The Toledo WSO with the future Cleveland and Cincinnati WFOs;

(7) The Lynchburg WSO with the future Roanoke WFO;

(8) The Roanoke WSO with the future Roanoke WFO;

(9) The Cape Hatteras WSO with the future Morehead City and Wakefield WFOs;

(10) The Akron WSO with the future Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Charleston, WV WFOs;

(11) The Columbus, OH WSO with the future Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Charleston, WV WFOs;

(12) The Harrisburg WSO with the future Central Pennsylvania WFO; and

(13) The Williamsport WSO with the future Central Pennsylvania and Binghamton WFOs.

In accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567, the Secretary of Commerce must certify that these consolidations will not result in any degradation of service to the affected areas of responsibility and must publish the proposed consolidation certifications in the FR. The documentation supporting each proposed certification includes the following:

(1) A draft memorandum by the meteorologist-in-charge recommending

the certification, the final of which will be endorsed by the Regional Director and the Assistant Administrator of the NWS if appropriate, after consideration of public comments and completion of consultation with the Modernization Transition Committee (the Committee);

(2) A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns which affect the weather services provided within the service area;

(3) A comparison of the services provided within the service area and the services to be provided after such action;

(4) A description of any recent or expected modernization of NWS operation which will enhance services in the service area;

(5) An identification of any area within the affected service area which would not receive coverage (at an elevation of 10,000 feet) by the next generation weather radar network;

(6) Evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, which was considered reaching the conclusion that no degradation in service will result from such action including the WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Report(s), User Confirmation of Services Report(s), and the Decommissioning Readiness Report (as applicable); and

(7) A letter appointing the liaison officer.

These proposed certifications do not include any report of the Committee which could be submitted in accordance with sections 706(b)(6) and 707(c) of Public Law 102-567. At their December 14, 1995 meeting the members "\* \* \* resolved that the MTC modify its procedure to eliminate proposed certification consultations of noncontroversial closings, consolidations, relocations, and automation certifications but will provide final consultation on certifications after public comment and before final submission to the Secretary of Commerce."

Documentation supporting the proposed certifications is too voluminous to publish in its entirety. Copies of the supporting documentation can be obtained through the contact listed above.

Attached to this Notice are draft memoranda by the respective meteorologists-in-charge recommending the certifications.

Once all public comments have been received and considered, the NWS will complete consultation with the Committee and determine whether to proceed with the final certifications. If decisions to certify are made, the

Secretary of Commerce must publish the final certifications in the FR and transmit the certifications to the appropriate Congressional committees prior to consolidating the offices.

Dated: February 7, 1996.

Elbert W. Friday, Jr.,

*Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.*

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
 From: Albert W. Wheeler, AM/MIC NWSFO  
 Portland, ME

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

A change of operations occurred at the Portland Weather Service Forecast Office (WSFO), located at the Portland Jet Port, in September 1994 when most personnel were transferred to the facility of the future Portland Area Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Gray, Maine to operate the WSR-88D and assume forecast and warning responsibility for the Portland service area. At the same time the Portland Jet Port (PWW) location was designated a Residual Weather Service Office (RWSO) to continue operating the existing WSR-74S radar and taking surface airways observations.

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgment, consolidation of the RWSO PWW with the future Portland Area Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Portland 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 Portland service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Portland Area WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Portland service area from the RWSO PWW location and a list of services to be provided from the future Portland area WFO location after the proposed 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 RWSO PWW Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Portland 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 RWSO PWM service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOC, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Maine and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Portland 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 Reports from the Portland area, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from Portland, attachment F, document that four negative comments were received. Three of these comments related to the Portland service area. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Portland WSR-74S radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Portland service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From:

Albert W. Wheeler, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Portland, ME

Robert M. Thompson, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Boston, MA

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, we have determined, in our professional judgment, consolidation of the Concord Weather Service Office (WSO CON) with the future Portland Weather Forecast Office (WFO) and the future Boston WFO, will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Concord service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, we are 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.

Our recommendation is based on our 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 Concord service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, we find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Portland and Boston WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Concord service area from the WSO CON location and a list of services to be provided from the future Portland and Boston WFO locations after the proposed 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 CON Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Portland 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 CON 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for New Hampshire and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Concord 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 Reports from the Portland and Boston areas, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from Portland and Boston, attachment F, document that four negative comments were received from the Portland area and two negative responses were received for the Boston area. None of the negative comments pertained to the Concord area. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not required as WSO CON did not have a radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Concord service area is included at attachment H.

We 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). We believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and we continue to recommend this certification.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certificate.

John T. Forsing

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From: William Comeaux, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Cleveland, OH

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgment, consolidation of the Mansfield Weather Service Office (WSO MFD) with the future Cleveland Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Mansfield 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 Mansfield service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that

providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Cleveland WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Mansfield service area from the WSO MFD location and a list of services to be provided from the future Cleveland WFO location after the proposed 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 MFD Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Cleveland 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 MFD service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOC, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Ohio and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Mansfield 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 Reports from the Cleveland area, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from Cleveland, attachment F, document that seven responses required full-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not needed as WSO MFD does not have a radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Mansfield service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From:

William Comeaux, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Cleveland, OH

Theresa Rossi, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Pittsburgh, PA

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, we have determined in our professional judgment, consolidation of the Youngstown Weather Service Office (WSO YNG) with the future Cleveland and Pittsburgh Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Youngstown service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, we are 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.

Our recommendation is based on our 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 Youngstown service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, we find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Cleveland and Pittsburgh WFOs, will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of services currently provided within the Youngstown service area from the WSO YNG location and list of services to be provided from the future Cleveland and Pittsburgh WFOs locations after the proposed 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 YNG Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Cleveland Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, we 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 YNG 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Ohio and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational

radar coverage for the Youngstown 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 from the Cleveland and Pittsburgh areas, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Cleveland and Pittsburgh WFO areas, attachment F, document that a total of 10 comments required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not necessary since WSO YNG does not have a radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Youngstown service area is included at attachment H.

We 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). We believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and we continue to recommend this certification.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From: Kenneth J. Haydu, MIC NWSO

Cincinnati, OH

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the Dayton Weather Service Office (WSO DAY) with the future Cincinnati Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Dayton 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.

Our recommendation is based on our 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 Dayton service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Cincinnati WFO, will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Dayton service area from the WSO DAY location and list of services to be provided from the future Cincinnati WFO locations after the proposed 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 DAY Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Cincinnati 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 DAY 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Ohio and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Dayton 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 from the Cincinnati areas, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Cincinnati WFO areas, attachment F, document that four comments required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not needed as WSO DAY does not have radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Dayton service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.  
John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From:

William Comeaux, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Cleveland, OH

Kenneth J. Haydu, MIC NWSO Cincinnati,  
OH

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, we have determined, in our professional judgement, consolidation of the Toledo Weather Service Office (WSO TOL) with the future Cincinnati and Cleveland Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Toledo service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, we are 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.

Our recommendation is based on our 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 Toledo service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, we find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Cincinnati and Cleveland WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Toledo service area from the WSO TOL location and list of services to be provided from the future Cincinnati and Cleveland WFO locations after the proposed 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 TOL Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Cleveland Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, we 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 TOL 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Ohio and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Toledo 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 Reports from Cincinnati and Cleveland areas, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Cincinnati and Cleveland WFO areas, attachment F, document that a total of 11 comments required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not necessary since WSO TOL does not have a radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Toledo service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.  
John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From: John V. Wright, MIC NWSO Roanoke,  
VA  
Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgment, consolidation of the Lynchburg Weather Service Office (WSO LYH) with the future Roanoke Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Lynchburg 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 Lynchburg service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Roanoke WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Lynchburg service area from the WSO LYH location and a list of services to be provided from the future Roanoke WFO location after the proposed consolidation is included in 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 Lynchburg Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Roanoke 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 LYH 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Virginia and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Lynchburg 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 Reports from the Roanoke area, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Roanoke WFO area, attachment F, document that seven comments required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not needed as WSO LYH does not have a radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Lynchburg service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From: John V. Wright, MIC NWSO Roanoke, VA

#### Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the Roanoke Weather Service Office (WSO ROA) with the future Roanoke Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Roanoke 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 Roanoke service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Roanoke WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Roanoke service area from the WSO ROA location and a list of services to be provided from the future Roanoke WFO location after the proposed 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 ROA Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Roanoke 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 ROA 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Virginia and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Roanoke 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 Reports from the Roanoke area, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Roanoke WFO area, attachment F, document that seven responses required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not needed as WSO ROA does not have a radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Roanoke service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From:

Thomas E. Kriehn, MIC NWSO Morehead City, NC

Anthony L. Siebers, MIC MWSO  
Wakefield, VA

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, we have determined, in our professional judgement, consolidation of the Weather Service Office Cape Hatteras, NC (WSO HAT) with the future Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) Morehead City, NC and Wakefield, VA, will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Cape Hatteras service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, we are 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.

Our recommendation is based on our 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 Cape Hatteras service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Morehead City and Wakefield WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Cape Hatteras service area from the WSO HAT location and a list of services to be provided from the future Morehead City and Wakefield WFO locations after the proposed 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 HAT Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future Morehead City WFO Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, we 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 HAT 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for North Carolina and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the WSO HAT 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 Reports from Morehead City and Wakefield,

attachment E validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from Morehead City and Wakefield, attachment F, document that a total of five negative comments were received for both offices. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the reports.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing WSO HAT WSR-57 radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Cape Hatteras service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From:

William Comeaux, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Cleveland, OH

Theresa Rossi, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Pittsburgh, PA

Alan Rezek, AM/MIC NWSFO Charleston,  
WV

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, we have determined, in our professional judgement, consolidation of the Akron Weather Service Office (WSO CAK) with the future Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Charleston Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Akron service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, we are 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.

Our recommendation is based on our 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 Akron service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, we find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Charleston WFOs, will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Akron service area from the WSO CAK location and list of services to be provided from the future Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Charleston WFO locations after the proposed 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 CAK Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Cleveland 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 CAK 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Ohio and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Akron 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 Reports for the Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Charleston area radars, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Charleston WFOs, attachment F, document that a total of 14 comments required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the reports.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Akron local warning radar, WSR-74C, is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.



6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Akron service area is included at attachment H.

We 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). We believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and we continue to recommend this certification.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From:

Kenneth J. Haydu, MIC NWSO Cincinnati, OH

William Comeaux, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Cleveland, OH

Theresa Rossi, AM/MIC NWSFO  
Pittsburgh, PA

Alan Rezek, AM/MIC NWSFO Charleston, WV

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, we have determined, in our professional judgment, consolidation of the Columbus Weather Service Office (WSO CMH) with the future Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Charleston Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Columbus service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, we are 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.

Our recommendation is based on our 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 Columbus service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, we find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Charleston WFOs, will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Columbus service area from the WSO CMH location and list of services to be provided from the future Cincinnati Area, Cleveland Area, Pittsburgh Area and Charleston Area WFOs locations after the proposed 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 CMH Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Cincinnati Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, we 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 CMH 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Ohio and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Columbus 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 Reports from the Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Charleston areas attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Charleston WFOs area, attachment F, document that a total of 18 comments required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the exiting Columbus local warning radar, WSR-74C, is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Columbus service area is included at attachment H.

We 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). We believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and we continue to recommend this certification.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

#### Attachments

Memorandum for: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From: Bruce W. Budd, MIC NWSO Central Pennsylvania, PA

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgment, consolidation of the Harrisburg Weather Service Office (WSO HRC1) with the future Central Pennsylvania Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Harrisburg 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 Harrisburg service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Central Pennsylvania WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Harrisburg service area from the WSO HRC1 location and a list of services to be provided from the future Central Pennsylvania WFO location after the proposed 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 HRC1 Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Central Pennsylvania 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 HRC1 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Pennsylvania and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Harrisburg 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 from the Central Pennsylvania area, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Central Pennsylvania WFO area, attachment F, document that three comments required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Harrisburg local warning radar, WSR-76C, is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Harrisburg service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing,

Attachments

Memorandum for: W/ER—John T. Forsing  
From:

Bruce W. Budd, MIC NWSO Central  
Pennsylvania, PA

Peter R. Ahnert, MIC NWSO Binghamton,  
NY

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation  
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, we have determined, in our professional judgment, consolidation of the Williamsport Weather Service Office (WSO IPT) with the future Central Pennsylvania and Binghamton Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Williamsport service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, we are 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.

Our recommendation is based on our 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 Williamsport service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, we find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Central Pennsylvania and Binghamton Area WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Williamsport service area from the WSO IPT location and a list of services to be provided from the future Central Pennsylvania and Binghamton area WFOs locations after the proposed 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 IPT Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Central Pennsylvania 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 IPT 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 NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Pennsylvania and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Williamsport 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 from the Central Pennsylvania and Binghamton areas, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are 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 from the future Central Pennsylvania and Binghamton WFOs areas, attachment F, document that five comments required follow-up. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, is not necessary since WSO IPT does not have a radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Williamsport service area is included at 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.

#### Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing

Attachments

[FR Doc. 96-3380 Filed 2-13-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-M

[I.D. 020796A]

#### Permits; Foreign Fishing

In accordance with a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of State, the National Marine Fisheries Service publishes for public review and comment summaries of applications received by the Secretary of State requesting permits for foreign fishing vessels to operate in the Exclusive Economic Zone under provisions of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Act, 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*). This notice concerns the receipt of an application from the Government of the Russian Federation requesting authorization to conduct a joint venture in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean for Atlantic sea herring and Atlantic mackerel. The large stern trawlers DAURIYA, NADIR and NOVATOR, and the factoryship SERGEY VASILISIN, are identified as the vessels that will receive sea herring and mackerel from U.S. vessels. Send comments on this application to:

NOAA - National Marine Fisheries  
Service

Office of Fisheries Conservation and  
Management  
1315 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
and/or, to one or both of the Regional  
Fishery Management  
Councils listed below:  
Douglas G. Marshall, Executive  
Director

New England Fishery Management  
Council  
5 Broadway  
Saugus, MA 01906  
617/231-0422  
David R. Keifer, Executive Director