



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
The Under Secretary of Commerce
for Oceans and Atmosphere
Washington, D.C. 20230

Ms. Joyce Miller
Chairperson
Hydrographic Services Review Panel
Federal Advisory Committee
46-064 Puulena Street, #1026
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Joyce!

Dear Ms. Miller:

Thank you for your letter following the April meeting of the Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HRSP) in Miami, Florida, as well as your ongoing support of our mission. I welcome your strategic advice to not only improve the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) navigation-services portfolio, but I also appreciate your proposals on improving hurricane safety, security, planning, response, and communication.

I recently had the chance to review your new issue paper, "Marine and Geospatial Data Infrastructure is Vital to the U.S. Blue Economy," as well as your updates to "The NOAA Hydrographic Survey Fleet: A Critical National Asset" and "Making Precision Navigation the New Norm in Approaches and Ports." These are strong additions to the prior papers HSRP has provided; NOAA's National Oceanic Service offices are already implementing many of the 10 recommendations within the publications.

In the paper, "Marine and Geospatial Data Infrastructure is Vital to the U.S. Blue Economy," I appreciate the focus on linkages to the Blue Economy and maritime competitiveness. I share HSRP's desire to communicate the importance of data infrastructure. NOAA's foundational positioning, ocean observation, and charting services provide the details needed to support critical decisions—not only for the maritime sector, but also for moving freight, people, and energy throughout all transportation modes from coast to coast.

I am very pleased about HSRP and NOAA Science Advisory Board plans for future and increased collaboration. I am confirming my availability for the August HSRP meeting and look forward to our ongoing dialogue.

*TOGETHER, NOAA & HSRP
ARE A WINNING TEAM!*

Sincerely,

RDML Tim Gallaudet, Ph.D., USN Ret.
Assistant Secretary of Commerce
for Oceans and Atmosphere and
Acting Under Secretary of Commerce
for Oceans and Atmosphere

