UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PROGRAM PLANNING AND INTEGRATION
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

SEP 1 5 2011

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an environmental review has been performed on the following action.

TITLE: Proposed Integrated Water Resources Science and Services (IWRSS) National Water Center at the University of Alabama

LOCATION: Tuscaloosa, Alabama

SUMMARY: The July 2011 Final EA prepared for the proposed action reference above provides a comprehensive analysis of potential environmental effects. With the implementation of recommended mitigation measures, neither individual nor cumulative environmental impacts of the proposed action will be significant. Based on consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, within the Alabama Historical Commission, adverse effects to resources eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places would be mitigated by performing specific actions in their letter dated July 1, 2011. Implementation of the proposed action will also be consistent with federal policies to promote environmental justice and to protect children contained in Executive Orders 12898 and 13045.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: William F. Broglie
Chief Administrative Officer
SSMC4, Room: 8431
1305 East -West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282
(301) 713-0836

The environmental review process led us to conclude that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact (FONSI) including the supporting environmental assessment (EA) is enclosed for your information.

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Although NOAA is not soliciting comments on this completed EA/FONSI, we will consider any comments submitted that would assist us in preparing future NEPA documents. Please submit any written comments to the responsible official named above.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Doremus, Ph.D.
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure