



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

JUL 19 2005

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

My family and I have decided that, for chronic health reasons, I should retire from full time employment at an appropriate time in the months ahead. Therefore, I am writing to advise that, with great respect, I plan to retire from my position as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere as well as from my special assignment as Director of the interagency Climate Change Science Program, upon the confirmation of my successor.

With your concurrence, I would prefer to continue in these current positions during the time required for my successor to be identified and confirmed. This would allow for continued implementation of a number of highly important interagency climate science programs, as well as for progress on several important NOAA initiatives within my purview.

It has been, and continues to be, a high honor be a part of your Administration's team, with a special focus on the development of scientific information to serve society. I heartily endorse the need for environmental stewardship built on the foundation of economic strength.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Mahoney".

James R. Mahoney, Ph.D.

Copies to:

Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez
Secretary of Energy Samuel W. Bodman
Acting Deputy Secretary of Commerce David A. Sampson
Under Secretary of Commerce Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.

THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR



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