



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
ACQUISITION AND GRANTS OFFICE

March 5, 2013

Dear Grantee:

As you are likely aware, the Budget Control Act of 2011 provided for automatic, across-the-board spending reductions if Congress failed to enact legislation, by January 15, 2012, to reduce the deficit by at least \$1.2 trillion over ten years. Congress did not meet its self-imposed deadline and automatic spending cuts were triggered, the first originally scheduled to occur on January 2, 2013. Legislation was enacted that day – not only to delay the effective date of sequestration until March 1, 2013, but also to reduce the amount to be sequestered by \$24 billion. The automatic reductions target both mandatory and discretionary spending for both defense and nondefense activities.

At this time, the U.S. Department of Commerce is planning for the possibility of sequestration and has identified your award as one that may be affected as a result of the automatic spending reductions. In this event, the Department may decide not to issue you a continuation award, including not awarding incremental funds on multi-year awards, and may require negotiation of a reduction in the scope of your award. If, as a result of the automatic spending cuts, your award is impacted, you will be contacted by the appropriate Grants Officer with additional details.

Sincerely,

Mitchell J. Ross  
Director