



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

**National Centers for Environmental Prediction**  
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Dr. Dominique Marbouty  
Director, ECMWF  
Shinfield Park,  
Reading RG2 9AX  
England

**NOV 13 2006**

Dear Dominique:

Thank you for your October 19, 2006 letter providing the status of the ECMWF effort to complete the nature runs for Observing System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs) and related research to be conducted at NCEP and the Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation (JCSDA). I sincerely appreciate the generous support and computer time ECMWF has devoted to this important project. Please extend my special thanks to Dr. Erik Anderson and to the ECMWF Data Support Section for the extra effort they have made in support of the OSSE Project.

NCEP will ensure the ECMWF guidelines for data distribution are carefully followed. Dr. Michiko Masutani is the NCEP point of contact for the nature run data sets.

I look forward to the results from the OSSEs which will help accelerate the transition of new satellite data sets into operations and be invaluable in considering future observing system decisions. To our mutual benefit, the OSSE work may also encourage additional ECMWF-NCEP collaboration.

Sincerely,

Louis W. Uccellini  
Director

cc: Stephen Lord, NCEP/EMC  
John LeMarshall, JCSDA

