

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE POLICY DIRECTIVE 60-25
MAY 30, 2012

Information Technology

NWS RADAR LEVEL II DATA DISSEMINATION NETWORK

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OPR: W/OPS32 (M. Dean)

Certified by: W/OPS (R. Vogt)

Type of Issuance: Routine

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This directive supersedes the National Directive System (NDS) Policy Directive 60-25; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) Radar Level II Data Dissemination Network dated March 4, 2004. Changes made are: 1) Telecommunications Operations Center (TOC) was moved from the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) to the Office of Operational Systems (OPS) in 2010.

1. This directive establishes the policy for maintaining the NOAA NWS Radar Level II Data Dissemination Network. This Level II data is obtained from a subset of the National Radar Network consisting of 139 interagency (NWS and Department of Defense) NEXRAD (WSR-88D) radars as described in NWS Policy Directive (NDS) 60-22. The Radar Level II network was established to meet NWS requirements to archive and operationally use Level II data in near-real time mode.
2. NWS Radar Level II data is the output of the WSR-88D Radar Data Acquisition and contains the reflectivity, radial velocity, and spectrum width data from all scans, and comprises the input to the Radar Product Generator.
3. This directive establishes the following authorities and responsibilities:
 - 3.1 The NWS/OPS are responsible for ensuring the NWS Radar Level II Data Dissemination Network operates at a high level of effectiveness.
 - 3.2 The TOC is responsible for automated monitoring of the flow of WSR-88D Radar Level II data from the NWS regional headquarters to top tier providers on a (24x7) basis. Upon determination that a regional Level II radar outage has occurred, TOC personnel are responsible for notification of designated regional Points of Contact's (POCs) in accordance with established TOC procedures.
 - 3.3 Regional Directors are responsible for specifying Regional Headquarters POCs from their respective offices who are to be available to respond to outages in accordance with NWS Instruction 60-2501, and to provide this information, on a timely basis, to the TOC. The list will contain a primary POC and at least one backup POC.

4. The effectiveness of this policy will be accomplished through daily monitoring and monthly reports by the TOC, as noted in NWSI 60-2501, Radar Level II Data Trouble Reporting and Response Procedures.

5. Definitions:

5.1 Regional Level II Outage. A complete loss of a regional data stream, or network latencies exceeding specified limits.

Signed

May 16, 2012

Date

John L. Hayes
Administrator Assistant for Weather Services