

President Donald J Trump has announced former Senator Rick Santorum as nominee to head the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Santorum, accepting the nomination, spoke in favor of revisiting his past proposals from The National Weather Service Duties Act of 2005, curtailing government competition with commercial weather services & eliminating public dissemination of National Weather Service data and forecasts except in case of severe weather alerts. He also spoke to the necessity of keeping American weather data confidential and questioned the need to share US data freely with other nations.

Later this morning, Neil Jacobs, acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA interim administrator, voiced his concern that these proposals may cause other nations to refuse to share their data with the US, limiting storm forecasting capabilities.

Washington Post: Rick Santorum received millions of dollars from Joel and Barry Meyers from 1991 – 2006 and for his bid for president.

New York Times: Weather disasters on the rise over the past 40 years

### **The Cost Of Climate – Related Disasters Has Soared In The 21st Century [Infographic]**

[://www.forbes.com/sites/niallmccarthy/2018/10/12/the-cost-of-climate-related-disasters-soared-in-the-21st-century-infographic/#5c12d10e7976](http://www.forbes.com/sites/niallmccarthy/2018/10/12/the-cost-of-climate-related-disasters-soared-in-the-21st-century-infographic/#5c12d10e7976)

### **The Chaos of Weather Forecasts**

[://www.wsj.com/articles/the-chaos-of-weather-forecasts-11570112364](http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-chaos-of-weather-forecasts-11570112364)

\* Washington Times – Wilbur Ross to testify before senate about the need for competition and accuracy – Vice President and Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross will make an appearance on the hill today to answer questions regarding a policy shift of great magnitude.

\* Fox News – Vice President Ross has confidential briefing with President Trump

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Working with President Trump, NOAA Administrator Santorum has taken steps to privatize the National Weather Service and limit international dissemination of US weather data.

Two weeks ago the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet was dispatched to the South China Sea following chatter of a recent North Korean launch.

Upon arrival, the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet discovered significantly reduced presence of the Chinese National Guard within South China Sea territory.

We have just received word that 80% of US Naval Presence in the South China Sea has been destroyed by what meteorologists are now calling Cyclone Levi.

We look to you as our leaders to create a plan of action in your role as legislators to bring our country through this trying time.