

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Lofgren:

On behalf of Climavision, I am writing in support of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Reauthorization Act of 2023.

The Weather Act Reauthorization strengthens and advances the legislative goals of the 2017 Act. One of those 2017 provisions (Sec. 414) required that the Department of Commerce complete a study on gaps in the coverage of the NWS's Next Generation Weather Radar. That Act also required that Commerce submit recommendations to Congress for improving hazardous weather detection and forecasting coverage in areas of the United States where limited or no Next Generation Weather Radar coverage has resulted in insufficient warnings or degraded forecasts for hazardous weather events.

Climavision paid close attention to that section and is establishing a nationwide commercial radar network that will provide coverage for those communities that reside in areas that historically have been referred to as *radar data gaps*. Extreme weather events are happening more often than ever before. Lower-level atmospheric radar surveillance is critical to meteorologists and imperative for severe weather detection, forecasts, and warnings. While the United States has the gold-standard of radar networks, there are still low-level gaps the network doesn't cover completely, putting areas at risk for missed warnings and vital weather updates.

Within the next few weeks, we will issue a formal announcement outlining Climavision's relationship with NOAA NWS and access to Climavision's rapidly expanding supplemental radar network that is designed to fill low-level radar data void areas across the country. This access will allow the National Weather Service to provide enhanced lead-time and watch/warning coverage for communities covered by Climavision radars.

I applaud your leadership in pursuing this legislation and stand ready to provide any information you might need to help strengthen our Weather Enterprise.

Very truly yours,



Chris Goode
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