OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

December 20, 2011

Jacob J. Lew, Director
Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office of the President
Executive Office Building
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Lew:

This letter is to urge you to include at least $150 million for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of Atmospheric Research (OAR) competitive climate research program, including the regional climate applications program and ocean observing system, in the FY 2013 budget request. The will restore the funding to FY 2011 levels, after the unfortunate cut to the program enacted by Congress in the FY 2012 budget.

In June, the Western Governors Association and NOAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding to provide climate information to western states focused on disaster risk reduction and coastal and marine management. We are greatly concerned that Congress's FY 2012 cut of twenty percent ($30 million) to this program will significantly hamper the effectiveness of this collaborative effort. NOAA's program also funds key weather forecasting and other programs that will help California plan for and minimize impacts from natural disaster. Numerous universities and research institutions in California are funded by NOAA's program, and many small California businesses develop and manufacture equipment used in these research efforts.

I strongly urge the Office of Management and Budget to fully restore funding for NOAA's climate observations and monitoring programs in the FY 2013 budget request. Even during this

era of constrained resources, it is vital to continue investments that can help states manage environmental risk and reduce future costs from natural disasters.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.

cc: The Honorable John Bryson, Secretary of Commerce
The Honorable Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmospheric Administration
Dana Hyde, Associate Director, Office of Management and Budget
Sally Ericsson, Associate Director, Office of Management and Budget