

Yoelit Hiebert

From: Yoelit Hiebert
Sent: Saturday, September 7, 2019 7:49 AM
To: neil.jacobs@noaa.gov
Subject: Politicization of NOAA

Mr. Jacobs - it is with deep regret that I read in today's papers that you have rebuked your staff in Alabama for insisting that weather forecasts be accurate as opposed to providing cover for false statements made by Mr. Trump. How can the American public trust the information we are provided when we know that it can be easily tainted due to political pressure? When it comes to weather forecasts that may make a difference in whether a person lives or dies, the public must have complete confidence that what we're being told is based on actual science, and not considerations of someone's ego.

You have made a terrible miscalculation of judgement by not standing behind your staff, I urge you to issue a formal, public apology to your staff who were correctly and appropriately doing their jobs based on good science and to further reassure the American people that going forward, weather predictions will not be influenced by who happen to occupy the White House. By not doing so, you will irreparably damage the reputation of NOAA and needlessly put people's lives at risk because they will have no confidence in what the agency says. Have the courage to do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Yoelit Hiebert