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Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and  
NOAA Administrator  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
14th Street & Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Undersecretary:

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005, NOAA announced in the Federal Register that it was seeking nominations for membership on the NOAA Science Advisory Board. On behalf of the National Association of Marine Laboratories (NAML), we -- the members of the Board of Directors of NAML -- are very pleased to submit the nomination of Dr. Jeffrey M. Reutter to be a member of the NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB).

NAML, organized in the late 1980's, is a nonprofit organization of over 120 members employing more than 10,000 scientists, engineers, and professionals and representing marine and Great Lakes laboratories stretching from Guam to Bermuda and Alaska to Puerto Rico. NAML member laboratories provide a variety of academic, research, and public service programs. They are unique "windows on the sea," providing information on the rich environmental mosaic of coastal habitats where land meets sea. Their 'sense of place' encourages wise local land management and protection of our precious natural resources.

Dr. Reutter will complete his term as President of NAML later this year. For the past four years (as President-Elect and President) he has served NAML with great distinction and leadership. His four years in a leadership position of this national organization has provided him with the insight and experience that make him an ideal candidate to serve on the NOAA Science Advisory Board.

Dr. Jeffrey M. Reutter is the director of four programs at The Ohio State University: F.T. Stone Laboratory (Ohio's Lake Erie Laboratory since 1895 and the oldest freshwater biological field station in the country), the Ohio Sea Grant College Program, the Center for Lake Erie Area Research (CLEAR) and the Great Lakes Aquatic Ecosystem Research Consortium (GLAERC).

Dr. Reutter is an aquatic biologist. He received his B.S. and M.S. in fisheries management and his Ph.D. in environmental biology from The Ohio State University. He joined CLEAR in 1972, became assistant director in 1976, coordinated the initial development of the Ohio Sea Grant College Program in 1977-78, became associate director of Stone Laboratory in 1982 and assumed his present positions in 1987. He was instrumental in the creation of GLAERC, and under his leadership the Ohio State Sea Grant Program has more than doubled in size, Stone Laboratory annual enrollment has increased 350 percent, the Laboratory's endowments have tripled in size and the

University's research and public education programs on Lake Erie have quadrupled in size.

He is the author of over 100 technical reports and journal articles and a frequent lecturer on issues related to the Lake Erie ecosystem, coastal economic development, artificial reefs, the importance of science education and research and the importance of communicating with nonscientists and the general public.

Dr. Reutter is the past U.S. co-chair and a current member of the Council of Great Lakes Research Managers for the International Joint Commission of the U.S. State Department; a member of the Board of Directors of the Great Lakes Protection Fund; and a past member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Oceans and Atmospheres (BOA) for the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC).

We believe Dr. Reutter would be a significant addition to the SAB. As a result, we are pleased to submit our unanimous recommendation for the appointment of Jeffrey M. Reutter to the NOAA Science Advisory Board.

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