

(1) **GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION.**—The term “geospatial information” means knowledge of the nature and distribution of physical and cultural features on the landscape based on analysis of data from airborne or spaceborne platforms or other types and sources of data.

(2) **HIGH RESOLUTION.**—The term “high resolution” means resolution better than five meters.

(3) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

(Pub. L. 111–314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3423.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
60301	42 U.S.C. 16671.	Pub. L. 109–155, title III, § 311, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2920.

§ 60302. General responsibilities

The Administrator shall—

(1) develop a sustained relationship with the United States commercial remote sensing industry and, consistent with applicable policies and law, to the maximum practicable, rely on their services; and

(2) in conjunction with United States industry and universities, research, develop, and demonstrate prototype Earth science applications to enhance Federal, State, local, and tribal governments’ use of government and commercial remote sensing data, technologies, and other sources of geospatial information for improved decision support to address their needs.

(Pub. L. 111–314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3423.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
60302	42 U.S.C. 16672.	Pub. L. 109–155, title III, § 312, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2920.

§ 60303. Pilot projects to encourage public sector applications

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall establish a program of grants for competitively awarded pilot projects to explore the integrated use of sources of remote sensing and other geospatial information to address State, local, regional, and tribal agency needs.

(b) **PREFERRED PROJECTS.**—In awarding grants under this section, the Administrator shall give preference to projects that—

(1) make use of commercial data sets, including high resolution commercial satellite imagery and derived satellite data products, existing public data sets where commercial data sets are not available or applicable, or the fusion of such data sets;

(2) integrate multiple sources of geospatial information, such as geographic information system data, satellite-provided positioning data, and remotely sensed data, in innovative ways;

(3) include funds or in-kind contributions from non-Federal sources;

(4) involve the participation of commercial entities that process raw or lightly processed data, often merging that data with other geospatial information, to create data products that have significant value added to the original data; and

(5) taken together demonstrate as diverse a set of public sector applications as possible.

(c) **OPPORTUNITIES.**—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall seek opportunities to assist—

(1) in the development of commercial applications potentially available from the remote sensing industry; and

(2) State, local, regional, and tribal agencies in applying remote sensing and other geospatial information technologies for growth management.

(d) **DURATION.**—Assistance for a pilot project under subsection (a) shall be provided for a period not to exceed 3 years.

(e) **REPORT.**—Each recipient of a grant under subsection (a) shall transmit a report to the Administrator on the results of the pilot project within 180 days of the completion of that project.

(f) **WORKSHOP.**—Each recipient of a grant under subsection (a) shall, not later than 180 days after the completion of the pilot project, conduct at least one workshop for potential users to disseminate the lessons learned from the pilot project as widely as feasible.

(g) **REGULATIONS.**—The Administrator shall issue regulations establishing application, selection, and implementation procedures for pilot projects, and guidelines for reports and workshops required by this section.

(Pub. L. 111–314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3423.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
60303	42 U.S.C. 16673.	Pub. L. 109–155, title III, § 313, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2921.

§ 60304. Program evaluation

(a) **ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**—The Administrator shall establish an advisory committee, consisting of individuals with appropriate expertise in State, local, regional, and tribal agencies, the university research community, and the remote sensing and other geospatial information industries, to monitor the program established under section 60303 of this title. The advisory committee shall consult with the Federal Geographic Data Committee and other appropriate industry representatives and organizations. Notwithstanding section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 App. U.S.C.), the advisory committee established under this subsection shall remain in effect until the termination of the program under section 60303 of this title.

(b) **EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION.**—Not later than December 31, 2009, the Administrator shall transmit to Congress an evaluation of the effectiveness of the program established under sec-

tion 60303 of this title in exploring and promoting the integrated use of sources of remote sensing and other geospatial information to address State, local, regional, and tribal agency needs. Such evaluation shall have been conducted by an independent entity.

(Pub. L. 111-314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3424.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
60304	42 U.S.C. 16674.	Pub. L. 109-155, title III, §314, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2921.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is section 14 of Pub. L. 92-463, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 60305. Data availability

The Administrator shall ensure that the results of each of the pilot projects completed under section 60303 of this title shall be retrievable through an electronic, internet-accessible database.

(Pub. L. 111-314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3424.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
60305	42 U.S.C. 16675.	Pub. L. 109-155, title III, §315, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2922.

§ 60306. Education

The Administrator shall establish an educational outreach program to increase awareness at institutions of higher education and State, local, regional, and tribal agencies of the potential applications of remote sensing and other geospatial information and awareness of the need for geospatial workforce development.

(Pub. L. 111-314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3424.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
60306	42 U.S.C. 16676.	Pub. L. 109-155, title III, §316, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2922.

CHAPTER 605—EARTH SCIENCE

Sec.	
60501.	Goal.
60502.	Transitioning experimental research into operational services.
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60506.	Sharing of climate related data.

§ 60501. Goal

The goal for the Administration's Earth Science program shall be to pursue a program of Earth observations, research, and applications activities to better understand the Earth, how it supports life, and how human activities affect

its ability to do so in the future. In pursuit of this goal, the Administration's Earth Science program shall ensure that securing practical benefits for society will be an important measure of its success in addition to securing new knowledge about the Earth system and climate change. In further pursuit of this goal, the Administration shall, together with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other relevant agencies, provide United States leadership in developing and carrying out a cooperative international Earth observations-based research program.

(Pub. L. 111-314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3425.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
60501	42 U.S.C. 17711.	Pub. L. 110-422, title II, §201, Oct. 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 4784.

CARBON CYCLE REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS RESEARCH

Pub. L. 106-391, title III, §315, Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1595, provided that:

“(a) CARBON CYCLE REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS RESEARCH PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator [of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration] shall develop a carbon cycle remote sensing applications research program—

“(A) to provide a comprehensive view of vegetation conditions;

“(B) to assess and model agricultural carbon sequestration; and

“(C) to encourage the development of commercial products, as appropriate.

“(2) USE OF CENTERS.—The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall use regional earth science application centers to conduct applications research under this section.

“(3) RESEARCHED AREAS.—The areas that shall be the subjects of research conducted under this section include—

“(A) the mapping of carbon-sequestering land use and land cover;

“(B) the monitoring of changes in land cover and management;

“(C) new approaches for the remote sensing of soil carbon; and

“(D) region-scale carbon sequestration estimation.

“(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$5,000,000 of funds authorized by section 102 [114 Stat. 1581] for fiscal years 2001 through 2002.”

EARTH OBSERVING SYSTEM

Pub. L. 102-588, title I, §102(g), Nov. 4, 1992, 106 Stat. 5111, provided that:

“(1) The Administrator [of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration] shall carry out an Earth Observing System program that addresses the highest priority international climate change research goals as defined by the Committee on Earth and Environmental Sciences and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

“(2)(A) Within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Nov. 4, 1992], the Administrator shall submit to Congress a plan which will ensure that the highest priority measurements are maintained on schedule to the greatest extent practicable while lower priority measurements are deferred, deleted, or obtained through other means.

“(B) Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Core System of the Earth Observing Sys-