To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Supply and Maintenance of Ocean Weather Buoys

This letter is to confirm that since 1987, AXYS Environmental Systems (a division of AXYS Technologies Inc.) has supplied Environment Canada with payload systems for use in NOMAD, three meter and WatchKeeper buoys deployed in the Northern Pacific Ocean, Western Atlantic and inland lakes in Canada. AXYS has been the only supplier of these payload systems to Environment Canada during this time.

The Canadian moored meteorological buoy network has been a very successful program. Starting with two buoys on the West Coast, it has now grown to 45 operational buoy stations (plus sparing) throughout Canadian waters. Our network includes 16 NOMADs, five of which were supplied on a turnkey basis by AXYS. The last two NOMADs were constructed in 1998.

Since the start of the program, AXYS has also been under contract to supply Environment Canada with factory and field maintenance services. These services include regular system maintenance, calibration, technological upgrades, mooring design and construction, training, and shipboard deployment and recovery support.

At Environment Canada, we are pleased with the data provided by the moored buoy network. The AXYS systems in use have performed very well with an operational reliability of better than 95% on the payloads. In addition, the technical support provided by AXYS has been of a high quality and has played a major part in the success of the program.

Sincerely,

Yves Durocher
Manager, Surface Weather, Climate and Marine Networks
Weather and Environmental Monitoring
Environment Canada