



LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE

Coastal Studies Institute
Center for Coastal, Energy & Environmental Resources

June 30, 1994

Dr. Vincent Salomonson
MODIS Science Team Leader
NASA/GSFC
Code 900
Greenbelt, MD 20771

*Paul - FYI -
Copy we are really interested
in this. Best
[Signature]*

Dear Dr. Salomonson:

I would like to offer the suggestion that a Coastal Environments discipline area be added to the MODIS Team discipline group, and express a strong interest in representing and serving in this area. Coastal environments represent a special departure from both the land and oceans disciplines in that both waters, foliage, sediments, atmosphere, resources, and land/water use are a collection of special cases eminantly addressable using remote sensing systems.. Coastal environments around the world are heavily impacted by multiple and often competing user communities. Here in Louisiana for example petroleum industry wants large, safe navigable channels to access offshore platforms. However the channels admit salt water intrusion which kills fresh marshes causing loss of wetlands and fish nursery grounds. Louisiana has legendary land losses, land and water abuse, and remarkable range of variability in water types, foliage types, and sedimentary environments. Additionally, there are an array of great river deltas around the world valuable for their huge living and fossil fuel resources but endangered by floods from land and storm surges from sea. There is a wide range of basic and applied research problems specific to coastal environments, with clear cut social significance.

We have been working jointly with Dr. Paul Menzel of Wisconsin on NASA research project, (winter storms and coastal sedimentation) using the MAMS and MAS sensors in the coastal deltaic, estuarine, and continental shelf waters here in Louisiana for the past few years. Our enthusiasm for the MAS data and the range of applications prompted his suggestion that we in the coastal research community get active in the MODIS program, a possible gap in the range of previously identified projects. Here along the Gulf Coast is a coastal research community including the LSU Coastal Studies Institute (physical processes), the Coastal Ecology Institute, Coastal Fisheries Institute, Wetland Biogeochemistry Institute, and nearby the National Wetlands

Center(Lafayette, La.) and the Louisiana Marine Sciences Consortium(Cocodrie, La.), Corps of Engineers Coastal Engineering Research Center(Vicksburg, Ms.), and the Coastal Geology Branch of the U.S. Geological Survey(St. Petersburg, Fla.).

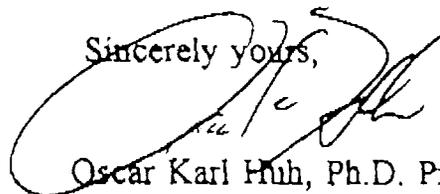
Back in 1988, we successfully competed for State funds to set up a NOAA satellite HRPT earth station. We received two injections of equipment funding, \$248k in 1988 and 106k in 1992, and have become self supporting. We are beginning our 7 th year of continuous, successful operations, possibly the first state funded facility in the nation. Enclosed is our brochure which introduces you to this facility. In addition to the AVHRR imagery we are now processing MAS, MAMS, AOCI, SPOT, and CAMS data in our research projects. AVHRR/ARGOS data in near real-time are being used by us to guide our offshore operations, also by agriculturalists, veterinary epidemiologists, and entomologists as well as the State Office of Emergency Preparedness. The regional decisionmaker is our favorite customer, they like timely information.

Enclosed are brochures to provide some introduction. I may be reached at:

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Fax: 504-388-2520
Email: oscar@antares.csi.lsu.edu

We, and most of the coastal community(nation wide and international) have some exciting applications and research projects that I am sure will add to the excitement and acheivements of the MODIS team. Thank you for consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Oscar Karl Huh, Ph.D. Professor
Director, Earth Scan Laboratory of the
Coastal Studies Institute and the Department
Of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences

Enclosures:

- Brochure on the Earth Scan Laboratory
- Brochure on LSU Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems
- Brochure on the Center for Coastal Energy and Environmental Resources