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EXHIBIT 5

 From:
 foia@noaa.gov

 To:
 Cate, Alicia

 Subject:
 FOIA REQUEST #DOC-NOAA-2018-000377 - Request Status

 Date:
 Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:16:15 AM

12/27/2017 11:03 AM FOIA Request: DOC-NOAA-2018-000377

Dear Ms. Cate:

This is in reference to the above-captioned FOIA request #DOC-NOAA-2018-000377. This is an update regarding your request.

We have commenced a records search. The NOAA Office of General Counsel, Southeast Section, has completed its searches and has been assigned to review their records for release determinations. Due to the holidays, we expect that review to be completed on or about January 9, 2018.

We anticipate providing you with interim responses due to the large volume of records.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me via e-mail at <u>beverly.smith@noaa.gov</u> or by phone at 727-551-5762, or the NOAA FOIA Public Liaison Robert Swisher at (301) 628-5755.

Sincerely,

Beverly J. Smith, Southeast Region FOIA Coordinator