

NOUS41 KWBC 121615
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-112
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1115 AM EST Mon Nov 12 2020

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Jason Levit, Chief
 Verification, Post-Processing, Product Generation Branch
 NCEP/Environmental Modeling Center

Subject: Termination of gaugeQC Products: Effective January 5, 2020

Effective on or about January 5, 2020, at 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will terminate the gaugeQC products from real-time distribution.

NWS will remove the following products from NCEP Web Services, including the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS) and File Transfer Protocol (FTP):

For FTP and NOMADS, the following gaugeqc directories and their contents will be removed:

<ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/datal/nccf/com/hourly/prod/gaugeqc/>
<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/datal/nccf/com/hourly/prod/gaugeqc/>

The gaugeqc directory in the above ftp and nomads sites contain four files, created each day around 04:06 UTC:

current.eval: gauges flagged as questionable
current.evalH: hourly gauges flagged as questionable (a subset of current.eval, with lat/lon info added)
current.good: gauges passed quality control check
current.goodH: hourly gauges passed quality control check (a subset of current.good, with lat/lon info added)

Explanations above the QC flags in the above good/eval[H] gauge listings:
https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/gaugeqc_collander_readme.pdf

The gaugeQC program was developed by Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) with EMC <https://ams.confex.com/ams/pdfpapers/95173.pdf> in the mid 2000s and used by the NCEP Stage II Quantitative Precipitation Estimate (QPE) analysis (at the time the sole source for pcpRTMA) to screen out questionable hourly gauges. With RTMA/URMA v2.8, implemented in late June 2020, pcpRTMA began using Multi Radar-Multi Sensor (MRMS) QPE as its source, and the Stage II analysis was discontinued (MRMS QPE has fully matured and can replace the Stage II). With the decommission of the Stage

II, the gaugeQC program is no longer needed, and since its function has been subsumed by the Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System (MADIS) and MRMS' gaugeQC function, we will discontinue this gaugeQC program.

If you have questions regarding this change, please contact:

Jason Levit
NWS/NCEP Environmental Modeling Center
College Park, MD
jason.levit@noaa.gov

If you have questions regarding the data flow aspects, please contact:

Anne Myckow
NWS/NCEP Central Operations
College Park, MD
ncep.pmb.dataflow@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

NNNN