



To whom it may concern:

Observational data form the foundation for understanding weather and climate, its variation and change, and its influence on societies, economic development, and natural resources. To derive maximum scientific, economic and societal benefit it is important that as much data as possible be made easily and readily available to support fundamental scientific research, government and private sector decision-making, other end-users, and society at large.

As part of the International Surface Temperature Initiative, a renewed effort is underway to create a comprehensive international data holding - a Global Databank - of all land meteorological data beginning with temperature. This effort will provide information that improves assurance of the integrity of observations from the point of measurement through processing, archiving, and distribution. It will combine existing holdings of land meteorological data with new sources of weather and climate data not currently available internationally to address gaps including inadequate temporal and spatial coverage.

We would like to encourage you to consider whether the data which you hold could be submitted to the Global Databank. Data either imaged or already digitized can be submitted as documented in the accompanying Data Submission Guide and online at http://www.gosic.org/GLOBAL_SURFACE_DATABANK/GBD.html . Data available in hard copy only can be submitted following the instructions in the video hosted at www.surface temperatures.org/databank/data-rescue-task-team .

In return for data submission a number of value added products can be created from the data and returned to you at your request. Examples include station normals, exceedance thresholds, domestic energy demand indicators, agricultural indices, amongst others. All the data provided to the Global Databank will be openly shared and will be a valuable resource for longer term analysis, study and independent product creation leading to many international benefits. These data will immediately serve to support activities of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Scientists worldwide will be aided in efforts to improve seasonal forecasting, understanding and adaptation to climate change, and numerous other activities affecting societies. In addition, data hosted as part of the Databank can serve as an archive and a source of data for the greater user community that will augment national data archive and access efforts.

If you have any questions regarding submissions to the Databank please contact Mr. Jared Rennie at data.submission@surface temperatures.org.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Lawrimore".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. W. Thorne".

Jay Lawrimore, Chair of Databank WG, International Surface Temperature Initiative
Peter Thorne, Chair of Steering Committee, International Surface Temperature Initiative