

## PRESS RELEASE: New scientific society for "climate skeptics" achieves 501c3 status, moves forward with membership and organizational plans

Wednesday, June 17th – Washington, D.C. After months of applications and waiting, the Internal Revenue Service has granted tax-exempt status to the Open Atmospheric Society under the 501(c) 3 section of the U.S. Tax code.

"During the waiting period of the application, the OAS went into a holding pattern mode, while we waited on the process to be completed.", said acting executive director Anthony Watts.

Now that 501c3 status has been granted, the OAS can move forward with the many projects and ideas that are part of the charter.

The OAS is an *international* membership society for the purpose of studying, discussing, and publishing about topics in atmospheric related earth sciences, including but not limited to meteorology, hydrology, oceanography, and climatology. It is open to anyone with an interest at the associate level, full membership for professionals, and student memberships also are offered.

The purpose of the society is to foster quality atmospheric science and atmospheric science communications through outreach, member education, member publishing, and electronic media. The goal is open science, and a transparent online peer review process, resulting in an open-source journal published online.

Currently, The OAS has nearly 200 members, including meteorologists, climatologists, scientists, students, and members of the general public, and with the new status, membership drives and other organization goals can proceed.

More information: www.theoas.org

Reference: Letter from the Internal Revenue Service OAS-IRS-Letter (PDF)