

Relaxed Regulations (e.g., on Weather Vendors) for Improved Domestic Investment Conditions

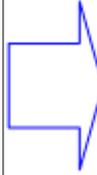
- The Weather Vendor Program, introduced in 1997, allows businesses to market weather products to users whose specific needs cannot be met by the Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA).
- Since the October 2008 designation of 「Fostering the Meteorology/Climate Industry」 as one of the top 100 national agenda items of the Lee Myung-Bak Administration, KMA has been contemplating a number of measures to foster the industry, one of which was to allow weather forecast by businesses.
- The enactment of the 「Meteorological Industry Promotion Act」 (promulgated on June 9, 2009; to be enforced from Dec 10, 2009) will make it possible for businesses to provide forecast products to the general public. In anticipation of any problems that the private sector may face in providing these services, KMA set concrete criteria for personnel qualifications and facilities, which were discussed at a forum for the research community, the industry, the media, and civil organizations. In addition, KMA has been working to minimize potential issues by studying the precedents of advanced countries with similar experiences.
- Relaxed regulations on weather vendors

- Relaxed regulations regarding weather vendor registration and services

Before	After
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Weather vendor -Employment history at weather vendor excluded from consideration -Applicants with 15 or more years of relevant experience -Applicants with 7 or more years of relevant experience and with at least a bachelor's degree in meteorology ▶ Services from weather vendors limited to clients with specific needs ▶ The least changes to be reported within 10 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Weather vendor -Recognition of employment history at weather vendor -Applicants with 8 or more years of relevant experience -Applicants with 4 or more years of relevant experience and with at least a bachelor's degree in meteorology ▶ Services from weather vendors permitted general users and specific users ▶ The least changes to be reported within 15 days

- Relaxed regulations regarding submission and inspection of material

Before
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ A vendor resisting 3 or more orders for report, inspection or correction without justifiable cause
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Suspension of business<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 3 orders: 1-month suspension- 4 orders: 2-month suspension- 5 or more orders: 3-month suspension



After
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Vendors who neglected to submit the materials required by Article 22 of the Act without justifiable cause; vendors who submitted falsified material; vendors who resisted or obstructed inspection or inquiry by a public official
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Penalty (in place of suspension)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1 violation: 500,000 Won- 2 violations: 1,000,000 Won- 3 or more violations: 2,000,000 Won