Your Agency is Green. So What?

Forty percent of the average Federal agency's management disciplines are as we want them to be, whereas 20% of them are unacceptable. In PMA scorecard terms, this means that about 40% of the agencies' scores are green, while about 20% are red. The average agency has improved its management practices significantly since four years ago, when 85% of our management practices (or scores) were unacceptable (or red).

But so what? Why is it important for Federal agencies to have good management practices in place? What's the value to the agencies and the taxpayers of the Federal government being green?

Because the average Federal agency is slowly but assuredly becoming green, we now want to be held accountable for:

- Significantly, quantifiably and annually improving the way the government works.
- Being very candid and forthcoming at all times about where we're successful and where we fall short, and in both situations, what we're doing to improve performance.
- Providing better levels of service, comparable to the private sector.
- Properly accounting for where we spend the taxpayers' money.

Additionally, by 2015, we are committed to:

- Improving annual program efficiency \$30+B.
- Reducing annual improper payments \$50+B.
- Reducing annual commercial activity costs \$6+B.
- Disposing of \$15B of unneeded Federal real property assets.

The quantifiable goals for the near term, 2008 for instance, are proportionally less but equally impressive. The Federal government could never have considered making such promises 5 or 10 years ago, but it can today.

Clay Johnson Deputy Director for Management Office of Management and Budget