



UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

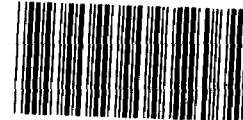
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PROGRAM ANALYSIS  
DIVISION

18 FEB 1983

B-197735

The Honorable James J. Howard  
Chairman, Committee on Public Works  
and Transportation  
House of Representatives



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Dear Mr. Chairman:

Subject: Program and Budget Information for the Committee's  
Views and Estimates Report on the President's  
Budget for Fiscal Year 1984 (GAO/PAD-83-23)

The enclosed material is forwarded for your information and use in preparation of your Committee's views and estimates report on the President's fiscal year 1984 budget proposals. The General Accounting Office has obtained this data from executive agencies and prepared it in this form as part of our responsibilities under 31 U.S.C. 1113. Specifically, the Comptroller General is required to establish and maintain a file of information to meet recurring needs of the Congress for fiscal, budget and program information. The data and information we are providing at this time include:

- A description of data and information maintained in GAO's Legislative, Authorization, Program and Budget Information System (appendix I).
- A listing of programs and authorization data for entities under your Committee's jurisdiction. This listing is useful for reviewing agency program structures (appendix II).
- A listing of programs requiring reauthorization in fiscal year 1983 or later (appendix III).
- A listing of budgetary data by agencies, bureaus, and accounts under your jurisdiction (appendix IV).

We will provide program level budgetary data as it becomes available. We are in the process of collecting this data from the various agencies and will provide it to your staff as soon as we complete our review and verification.

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BUDGET OVERVIEW FOR PROGRAMS AND  
ACTIVITIES UNDER THE COMMITTEE'S  
JURISDICTION

The 1984 budget proposes further spending restraints and emphasizes program reforms deemed to be priorities by the administration. Total fiscal year 1984 budget authority will increase by \$52.7 billion, or about 6.2 percent, net of receipts. Total outlays will increase by \$43.3 billion, or about 5.4 percent, net of receipts.

The budget for appropriation accounts and budget functions under the jurisdiction of the House Committee on Public Works and Transportation reflects an increase of \$1.9 billion in outlays and \$554 million in budget authority for fiscal year 1984. The following analysis is provided to highlight the major program and budget changes.

Natural Resources and Environment

Outlays for the Natural Resources and Environment (300) budget function will decrease by about \$2.3 billion in fiscal year 1984. Spending for programs in the Water Resources (301) budget subfunction will decrease by \$650 million. Spending for the Army Corps of Engineers will decrease by \$762 million. Of this amount, \$213 million is a result of offsetting revenues from a proposed system of user fees to be made available through the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. New legislation is required for this item. The administration is also proposing that a substantial portion of the cost of new construction projects be borne by non-Federal project sponsors.

Outlays in the Conservation and Land Management (302) budget subfunction will decrease by \$532 million. Of this amount, \$204 million is a result of an increase in offsetting receipts and \$283 million is a reduction in spending for management of national forests, cooperative forestry, and forestry research.

Outlays for the Recreational Resources (303) subfunction will decrease by \$218 million in fiscal year 1984. This spending reduction, includes \$97 million for Federal land acquisition and \$103 million for operation of recreational resources.

Spending in the Pollution Control and Abatement (304) subfunction will decrease by \$272 million. The decrease is primarily a result of cuts in spending for Sewage Treatment Plant Construction Grants (\$300 million) and regulatory, enforcement, and research programs (\$50 million) in the Environmental Protection Agency. Increased spending of \$78 million is proposed for the Hazardous Substance Response Fund.

Transportation

Outlays for programs in the Transportation (400) budget function will increase by nearly \$3.3 billion in fiscal year 1984. The major portion of the transportation spending increase is for maintaining and upgrading highways.

Spending for Ground Transportation (401) programs is estimated to increase by \$2.7 billion in fiscal year 1984. A major increase is proposed for highway systems (\$3.2 billion). The increase is net of a legislative proposal to reduce outlays for contract authority. Spending decreases are proposed for mass transit (\$143 million), railroads (\$389 million), and regulation (\$6 million). The decrease in mass transit outlays reflects the restructuring of operating assistance under new block grants and increased receipts from highway user and gasoline taxes.

Spending for Air Transportation (402) will increase by \$622 million in fiscal year 1984. Outlays for airways and airports will increase by \$609 million to provide for improvement, operations, and maintenance of the national airspace system. Outlays for aeronautical research and technology will increase by \$20 million.

Community and Regional Development

Spending for programs in the Community and Regional Development (450) budget function will decrease by \$422 million in fiscal year 1984. Cuts are proposed for Community Development (451) programs (\$65 million) and Area and Regional Development (452) programs (\$364 million). A spending increase of \$8 million is estimated for Disaster Relief and Insurance (453) programs.

Spending decreases in the Area and Regional Development (452) subfunction cover a number of programs including: Appalachian regional development programs (\$49 million), Appalachian Regional Commission (\$.5 million), Agriculture Department rural development programs (\$120 million), Commerce Department, Economic Development Administration (EDA) programs (\$144 million) and regional development programs (\$7.4 million), and Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) (\$70 million).

The administration is continuing its policy of phasing out all EDA activities as soon as possible in 1983. No program funding is requested for EDA in fiscal year 1984. Funds for community and economic development will be provided through the community development block grant and urban development action programs. Specialized assistance for rural areas will continue to be provided through the Farmers Home Administration.

The Appalachian Regional Commission and its nonhighway and access roads programs are proposed for termination at the end of 1983. The Appalachian development highway system will continue

to be funded from the Highway Trust Fund in the Department of Transportation until the end of 1986. After 1986, funding will be at the discretion of the thirteen states through Federal-aid for highways grants.

The decrease in fiscal year 1984 outlays for TVA is a result of a decrease in capital investment expenditures due to 1) completion of one nuclear plant in fiscal 1983, 2) neared completion for other nuclear plant construction, and 3) deferred construction for other nuclear plants.

### Federal Buildings

Spending for Federal buildings will generally decrease in fiscal year 1984. The budget shows spending decreases for the following areas: Architect of the Capitol (\$18 million), care of buildings and grounds for the Supreme Court (about \$1 million), Indian health facilities (\$25 million), construction for Washington Metropolitan Airports (\$8 million), and construction, expansion, and improvements for the Bureau of the Mint Facilities (\$7 million).

Fiscal year 1984 spending increases are estimated for buildings and facilities in the following agencies: Food and Drug Administration (\$4 million) and National Institutes of Health (\$3.5 million).

The budget for the General Services Administration Federal Buildings fund shows negative outlays of \$137 million in fiscal year 1984, a net decrease of \$231 million from fiscal year 1983. The Federal Buildings Fund derives income from rent assessments, called standard level user charges. The assessments were frozen in fiscal year 1983 causing a significant increase in outlays from fiscal year 1982. The freeze will be lifted on the standard level user charges in fiscal year 1984, and the increase in rent assessments will result in a reduction in outlays in fiscal year 1984, thereby accounting for the large negative outlay total.

### STATUS OF ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS, AND FUNCTIONS

The following highlights cover the status of reorganizations, terminations, and creation of new programs. Proposed changes cover programs in several major executive agencies.

#### Reorganizations

The fiscal year 1983 budget proposal to abolish the Department of Energy and to transfer its programs to the Department of Commerce and various other agencies was not approved. Therefore, the Department of Energy appears in the fiscal year 1984 budget as an executive agency.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, appropriation (21-10) 69-8016-401 for State and Community Highway Safety, is being renamed as Highway Traffic Safety Grants. No funds are requested for school bus driver training in fiscal year 1984.

### Program Terminations

In fiscal year 1981, the Department of Commerce Regional Development Program (06-15) terminated and the authorization was repealed. During fiscal year 1983, Economic Development Administration programs (06-10), Appalachian Regional Development Programs (04-02), and the Appalachian Regional Commission (31-09) will all be discontinued. Authorizations for these programs expired in fiscal year 1982.

In the Federal Highway Administration, many of the small Federal-aid programs have been and are being consolidated. Funding for these programs will be provided under the Federal-Aid Highway Trust Fund. Under the new proposal, the States will have discretion in the use of Federal-aid funds for their particular priorities.

### New Programs

In fiscal year 1983, legislation will be proposed to permit charging of user fees to be deposited in the Inland Waterway Trust Fund under the Army Corps of Engineers, appropriation (08-10) 20-8861-301. This fund would use receipts collected pursuant to the Inland Waterways Revenue Act of 1978 to finance construction and rehabilitation activities in the following appropriations:

- Construction, General, (08-10) 96-3122-301
- Operation and Maintenance, General, (08-10) 96-3123-301,  
and
- Flood Control, Mississippi Rivers and Tributaries, (08-10)  
96-3112-301.

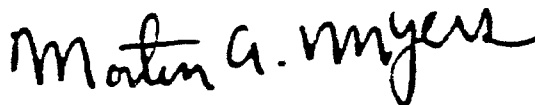
Two new programs are shown in the Federal Highway Administration. They are: 1) the Motor Carrier Assistance Program, appropriation (21-05) 69-8027-401 and 2) the Appalachian Highway System, appropriation (21-05) 69-8055-401. The Appalachian Highway System program is being transferred from the Appalachian Regional Commission to the Department of Transportation. It will provide for better and improved highway transportation in the Appalachian region and will be funded out of the Highway Trust Fund.

Programs Requiring  
Reauthorization

A number of programs under the Committee's jurisdiction will require reauthorization for fiscal year 1983 or later. To facilitate identification and review of these programs, we have prepared a special listing of programs with expiring authorizations. The listing is arranged by expiration date and is sorted by agency and appropriation account (see appendix III). The Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy have not yet submitted their authorization data. We will receive this data with the program level budget information and will provide it to you at a later date.

We hope that the information we have provided will assist you in your analysis and reporting on the fiscal year 1984 budget.

Sincerely yours,



Morton A. Myers  
Director

Enclosures - 4

cc: Mr. Sante Esposito

bc: Mr. Havens (OCG)  
Mr. Myers (PAD)  
Mr. Corazzini (PAD)  
Mr. Hunter (PAD)  
Mr. Jenney (PAD)  
Ms. Dyess (PAD)  
Ms. Condon (PAD)  
Ms. Boals (PAD)  
Ms. McFarlin (PAD)  
Mr. Peach (RCED)  
Index and Files  
File 972915

LEGISLATIVE, AUTHORIZATION, PROGRAM AND  
BUDGET INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Comptroller General is required by law (31 U.S.C. 1113) to conduct a continuing program to identify congressional needs for fiscal, budget, and program information. The law also requires that the Comptroller General and the Director of the Congressional Budget Office individually or jointly establish and maintain a file in order to meet these congressional needs. GAO has created the Legislative, Authorization, Program and Budget Information System (LAPIS) which currently includes authorization and budget information on all Federal agency programs.

Our approach over the past year has been to build on previous years' efforts and improve the overall information development and report processing. GAO has reviewed and refined program structures for all Federal agencies; identified authorizing committee and appropriation subcommittee jurisdictions for programs; added new data elements to enhance program and oversight information reporting; verified authorization and budget data; and improved ADP capabilities for storing, maintaining, and providing access to the data.

The LAPIS inventory not only supports our assistance to congressional authorizing committees on their March 15 views and estimates reports, but it is also used for generating other lists and supporting analytical work in a variety of areas. In addressing other congressional information needs, we have provided report listings by funding expiration dates to support work on reauthorizations; listings of legislation by public law, title, and section to support legislative analysis; and listings of specific agency programs to support oversight and program evaluation.

The inventory currently contains information on over 6,000 Federal programs, activities and projects. The following data elements are available for each program, activity or project listed in LAPIS:

- Administering agency and bureau, or independent commission,
- Budget function and subfunction,
- Citation of the law that authorizes the program, including the public law name and the relevant title and section of the U.S.Code,
- Name of program, activity, or item,
- Type of record (program, administrative, financial, supplemental, rescission),

- Appropriation account number, fund code, and transmittal type,
- House and Senate authorizing committee jurisdiction,
- House and Senate authorizing subcommittee jurisdiction for selected committees,
- House/Senate appropriation subcommittee jurisdiction,
- Amounts authorized, if specified, and/or narrative description of funding provisions,
- Funding expiration dates for programs,
- Related budget authority, outlays, obligations, and offsetting collections for the past, current, and budget years,
- Senate/House program policy areas,
- Special program areas, e.g., for use in identifying special Government-wide programs such as:
  - disaster assistance programs,
  - entitlement programs, and
  - research and development programs,
- Program description and objective statements,
- Impacted target groups, and
- GAO issue area and lead division codes.

The maintenance of LAPIS is an on-going process. Continued revisions to the system are necessitated due to reprogrammings, new legislation, changes in committee jurisdiction, new budget function classifications, and various other factors. We are continuing to expand, update and refine the program inventory to ensure its effectiveness in meeting our legislative mandate.