



Mississippi Emergency Management Agency Executive Director Mike Womack

MCDEMA Mid-Winter Conference

November 15, 2010





Busy 2010 for Emergency Management

No Hurricanes but...

- January: Freezing temperatures led to water crisis in several areas.
- April: Widest tornado in state history rips across Central Mississippi from Louisiana line to Alabama line.
- May: Severe storms and flooding hit Northeast Mississippi.
- Oil Spill.



Oil Spill Learning Experience

Stafford Act vs. Oil Pollution Act '90



Gulf of Mexico May, 2010



Response Differences

Stafford Act

- The Stafford Act allows the President to issue a federal disaster declaration in a state, thus making the state emergency management agency the lead agency for managing the incident.
- In the event of a federally declared disaster, the Governor would appoint a Governor's Authorized Representative, or GAR, and a State Coordinating Officer to coordinate response and recovery activities with local governments and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- The Deepwater Horizon type incident is covered in the State of Mississippi's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan under Emergency Support Function 10-Oil and Hazardous Materials.
- The CEMP directs Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality as the primary agency for coordinating state agency activities under an ESF 10 activation.



Response Differences

Oil Pollution Act of 1990

- Deepwater Horizon has been classified an event of National Significance and the response is being guided by the National Contingency Plan and the Federal Oil Pollution Act of 1990.
- Oil Pollution Act of 1990 assigns a responsible party for all costs incurred, in this case BP.
 - Removal costs
 - Damage to natural resources
 - Damage to real or personal property
 - Damage to subsistence use
 - Loss of revenues by U.S. or state
 - Loss of profits
 - Public services

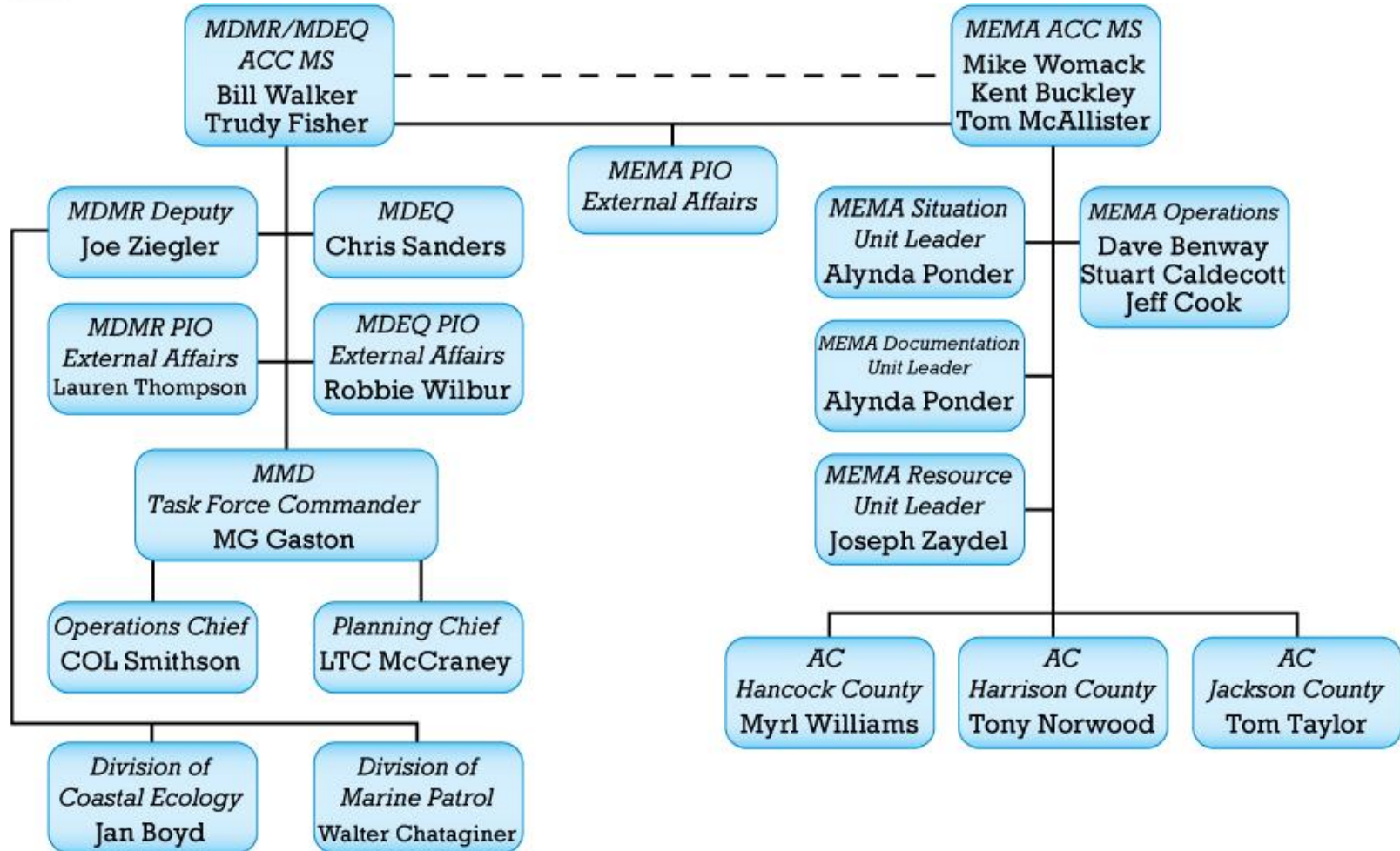
A responsible party can also be liable for:

Federal and state costs of natural resource damage assessment.



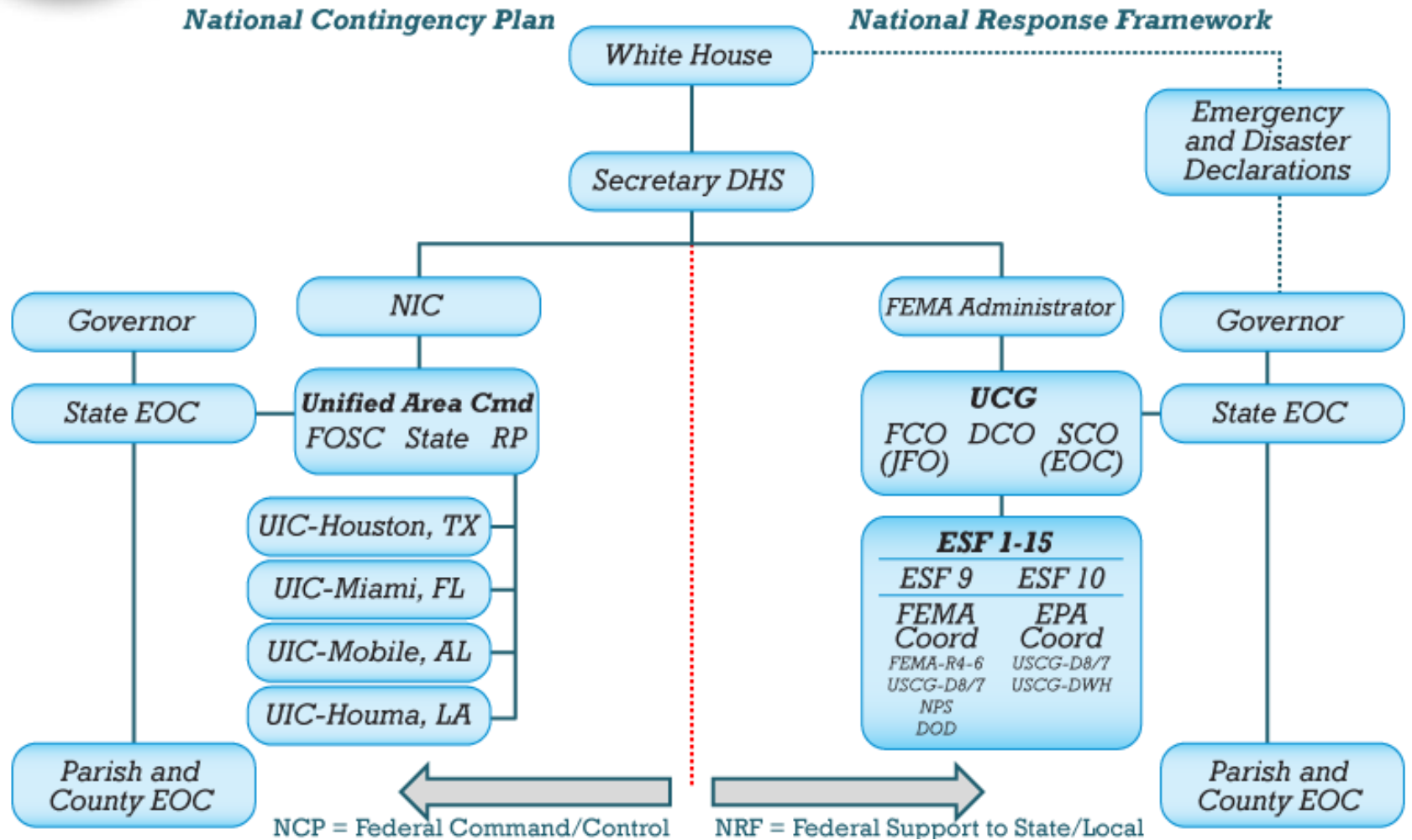
Oil Response Organizational Chart

August 10, 2010



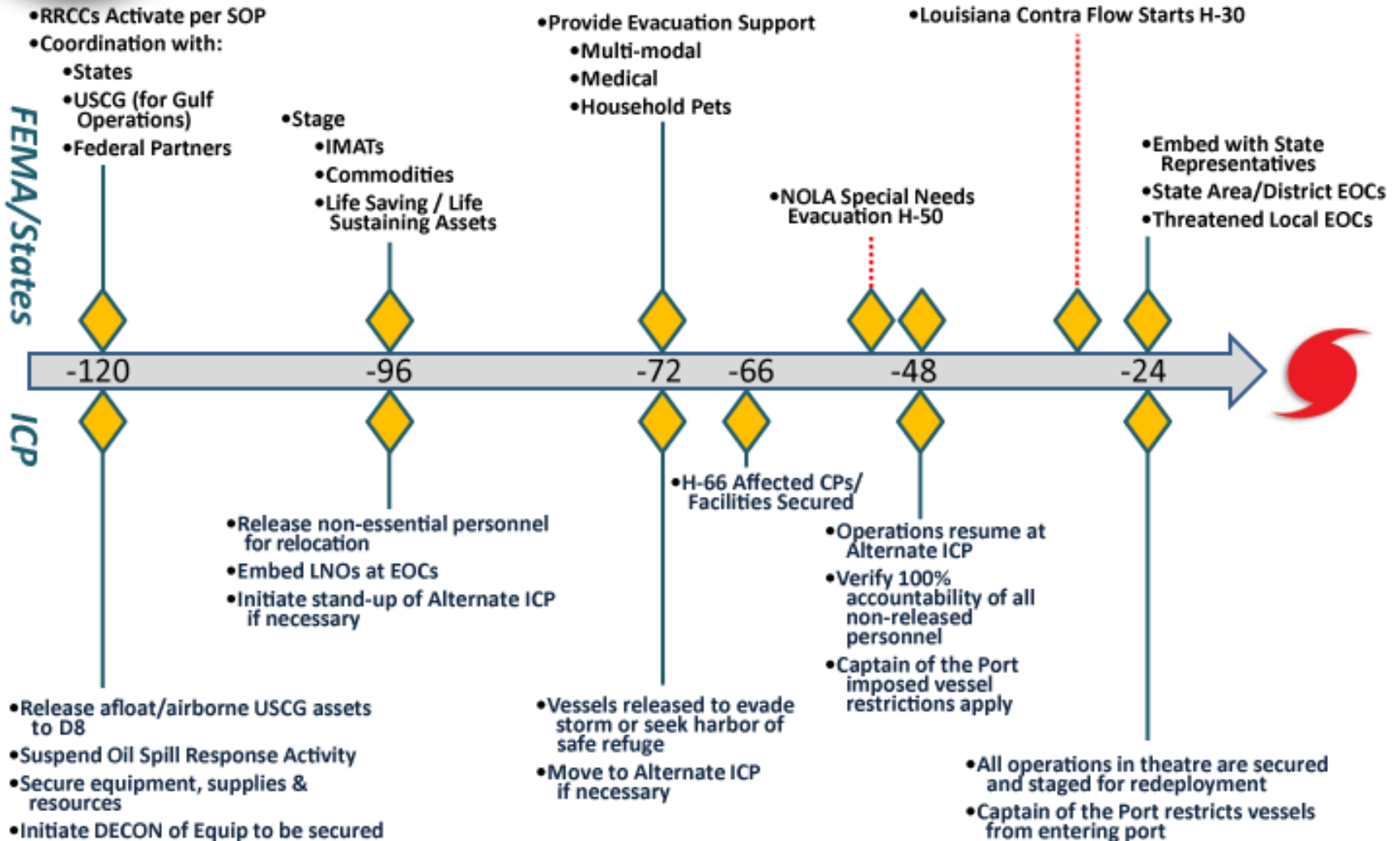


Federal Oil Response Organizational Chart



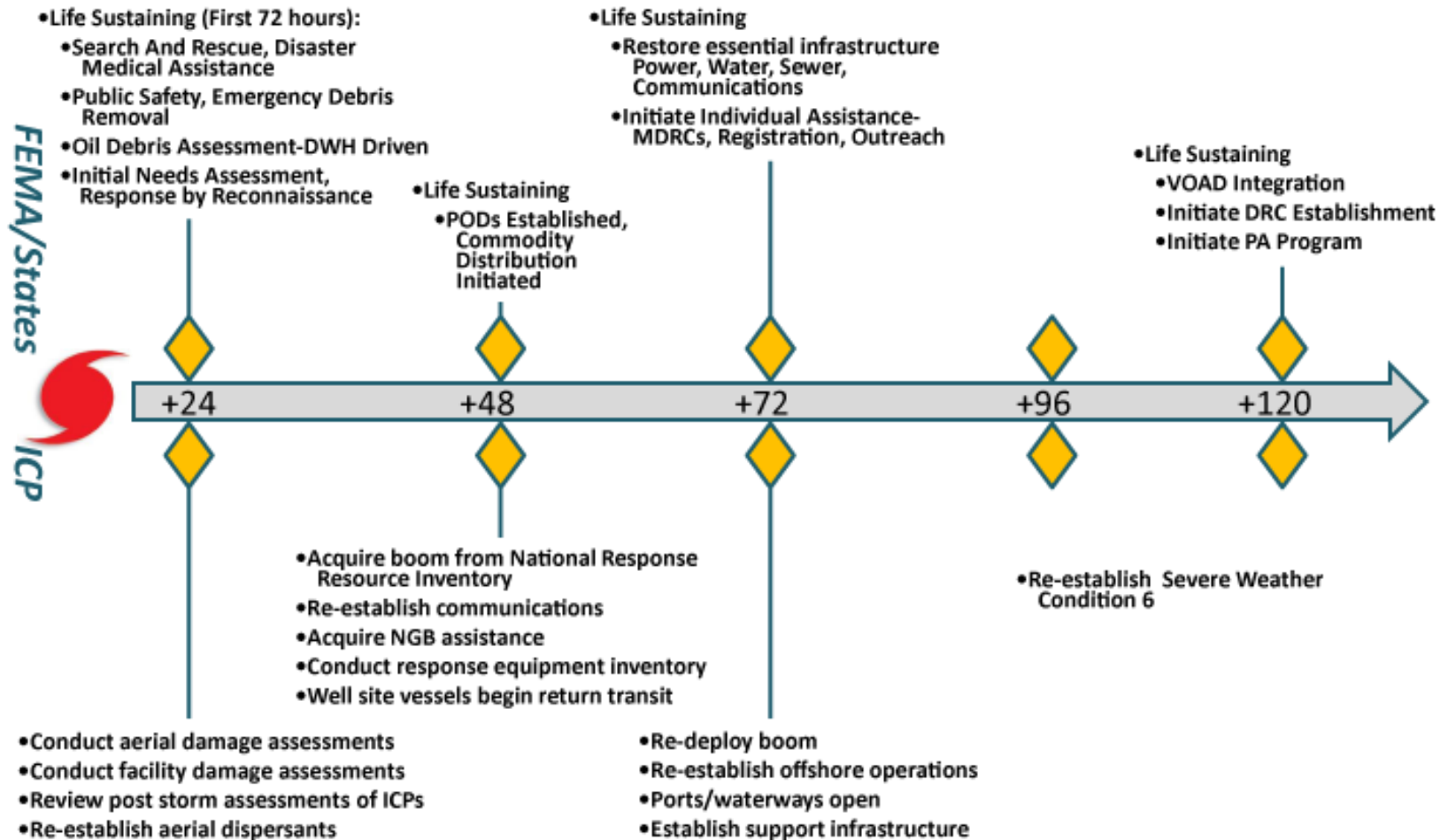


Pre-Storm Hurricane Timeline





Post-Storm Hurricane Timeline





Possible Stafford Act Changes





Proposed Legislation

Disaster Recovery Act of 2010:

- Would amend portions of Stafford Act, Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act and Homeland Security Act.
- Authored by Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA.)



Disaster Recovery Act: Details

Housing:

- Would authorize repair of rental units as alternative to trailers.
- Extends assistance in additional areas such as mortgage and rental assistance.
- Would extend sheltering services.



Disaster Recovery Act: Details

Facilities, Infrastructure & Government:

- Would provide advance funding for restoration of facilities and infrastructure within 60 days.
- Would allow for project consolidation.
- Eliminates penalties on alternate projects.
- Would expedite Community Disaster Loans.



Disaster Recovery Act: Details

Local Capacity and Environment:

- Incentives to adopt and enforce building codes.
- Recycle debris and use energy efficient rebuilding designs.
- Authorizes localities to self-insure.
- Advances states a percentage of hazard mitigation grant programs shortly after disaster.



Disaster Recovery Act: Details

Disaster Workforce:

- Establishes credentialing, training and evaluation requirements.
- Encourages recruitment of local hires in recovery field offices.



Public Assistance Arbitration

- Very effective thus far in resolving PA disputes between applicants and FEMA.
- Nine Mississippi cases have gone through arbitration.
- Recommended to Congress that the rulings should be incorporated permanently into the PA program and its policies.



PA Pilot Program

Developed in June 2007 through Dec. 2008:

- Provide grants based on estimates for large projects up to \$500,000.
- Provide additional five percent federal cost share to applicants who had a FEMA-approved debris management plan and at least two pre-qualified debris and wreckage removal contractors identified pre-event.



PA Pilot Program

- Allow applicants to retain revenue from the salvage of recyclable disaster debris as an incentive to recycle.
- Reimburse the straight or regular-time salaries of an applicant's permanently employed staff who performed debris related activities.



New Shelter Guidance

Guidance on Planning for
Integration of Functional
Needs Support Services in
General Population Shelters



www.fema.gov/pdf/about/odc/fnss_guidance.pdf



Tough Budget Times





MEMA's Budget Reductions

Year	Percent Decrease
2009	5%
2010	11%
2011	4%
2012 (proposed)	15%



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Questions?

