Washington Update  
President's FY12 Budget Request  
February 15, 2011

This Monday, President Obama released his FY 2012 budget request, detailing his proposal to Congress to fund the federal government in the fiscal year that begins on Oct. 1 of this year. Lewis-Burke Associates has provided a detailed analysis of the President's R&D request by agency. The LBA analysis is attached for those who would like this level of depth.

In summary, non-defense R&D fares very well in the President's budget FY 2012 request. *The President requested $66.756 billion in non-defense R&D, which would be $4.073 billion or a 6.5% increase over FY 2010 enacted levels. *

The President's request for the major scientific agencies in FY 2012 are:

- NSF: $7.767 billion, a $894 million or 13.0% increase over FY2010 enacted levels.*
- NOAA: $5.498 billion, a $806 million or 17% increase over FY 2010 enacted levels.*
- NASA: $18.724 billion, the same as FY 2010 enacted levels, but with increases for Earth Science.*
- DOE Office of Science: $5.42 billion, a $452 million or 9.2% increase over FY 2010 enacted levels.*

The annual budget request is the product of a year long process in which the White House weighs agency and programmatic requests alongside the President's priorities and eventually integrates all into one final budget product that serves as a starting point for the Congress' annual budget and appropriations process. Congress must write every spending bill signed into law. The release of the President's budget request marks the beginning of this process and of the part of the budget process that is open to the public.

As mentioned in earlier updates, Congress has not yet finished legislating the major federal spending bills for FY 2011, which began last Oct. 1, 2010. While both efforts are receiving attention at the same time, please note that they are two different efforts, with different funding years and in different stages of the budget process.

We know the budget is complex and the budget process is complicated. If you have any specific or general questions, feel free to email me or anyone in the Office of Government Affairs. We will continue to update you as we get more specific details and the budget process unfolds.

Mike