



Don Nickles, Chairman
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FY05 BUDGET RESOLUTION...SECURITY, OPPORTUNITY, AND RESPONSIBILITY

Environment

Fire Suppression. The Department of the Interior manages one out of every five acres of land in the United States. With more than 700,000 wildfires running rampant throughout the west last year, the DOI has a large responsibility to control these fires to avoid the destruction of forests and homes. The budget provides \$907 million for fire suppression in FY05 within the Forest Service and Department of the Interior, an increase of \$117 million or 15 percent over FY04 levels. Additionally, the budget includes a technical adjustment that would provide the Appropriations Committee with additional funding of \$500 million for fire suppression if additional funds were needed.

Environmental Protection Agency. The budget provides a \$235 million increase or \$8.6 billion for the EPA to accelerate efficient protection of our nation's land, water, and air without impairing the economy. This includes \$4.0 billion for State and Tribal Assistance Grants, including \$65 million for the new clean school bus initiative and \$1.4 billion for Superfund site clean-up, an increase of \$138 million or 11 percent over FY04.

Defense Environmental Management. The budget assumes the President's request of a \$365 million increase or \$7.0 billion for Defense Environmental Management to ensure the protection of the environment through purchases of land or developmental rights around military installations while allowing our troops to train.

Land and Water Conservation. The budget continues to fund the President's proposal of \$900 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund to conserve, develop, and utilize outdoor recreation resources for the benefit of the American people.

Tax Credits. The budget includes a reserve fund of \$1.5 billion in spending and \$15 billion in tax relief over five years to implement a comprehensive energy bill. This bill includes \$5 billion in tax credits for renewable fuels and \$5 billion in conservation incentives to promote and sustain a clean environment.