

enter into an agreement with a non-Federal entity to develop a cost shared demonstration project for below-the-reservoir production at NPR-3.

#### ELK HILLS SCHOOL LANDS FUND

The conference agreement provides \$36,000,000 for the third payment from the Elk Hills school lands fund as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The managers have agreed to delay this payment until October 1, 2001, and expect the payment to be made on that date or as soon thereafter as possible.

#### ENERGY CONSERVATION (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes \$816,940,000 for energy conservation instead of \$649,672,000 as proposed by the House and \$763,937,000 as proposed by the Senate, including \$2,000,000 to be derived by transfer from the biomass energy development account. The numerical changes described below are to the House recommended level.

In technology roadmaps and competitive research and development for buildings there is an increase of \$762,000 for roadmaps and a decrease of \$500,000 for competitive R&D. Increases in residential buildings integration include \$750,000 for Building America and \$100,000 for residential building codes. In commercial buildings integration there are increases of \$600,000 for research and development and \$100,000 for commercial building energy codes.

In equipment, materials and tools there are increases of \$300,000 for lighting research and development to increase the base budget for the hybrid lighting partnership, \$1,645,000 for residential absorption heat pumps, \$3,000,000 for desiccants and chillers, \$1,000,000 for refrigeration, \$1,950,000 for co-generation/fuel cells, \$500,000 for appliances and emerging technology research and development, \$500,000 for windows research and \$1,000,000 for lighting and appliance standards.

There are also increases of \$13,000,000 for the weatherization assistance program and \$1,000,000 for the State energy conservation program.

In the Federal energy management program increases include \$1,000,000 for program activities and \$300,000 for program direction. The managers expect the Department to incorporate the use of distributed generation into the Federal energy management program. Onsite power options should be considered for all Federal facility power needs based on a balance between economic and environmental considerations. Distributed generation technologies can provide improved reliability, quality of power, total cost of ownership, environmental benefits and remote power needed to achieve Federal missions. The Department of Energy should set the example immediately in its own facilities and report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this Act with a plan for doing so at DOE sites in fiscal year 2001 and throughout the Federal government in fiscal year 2001 and beyond.

For industries of the future (specific) programs increases include \$178,000 for aluminum, \$30,000 for glass, \$250,000 for mining, \$2,000,000 for agriculture and \$1,800,000 for supporting industries. In industries of the future (crosscutting) there are increases of \$450,000 for inventions and innovations and \$3,000,000 for distributed generation and a decrease of \$450,000 for the National Competitiveness through Energy, Environment and Economics grants program. In management and planning for industry sector programs there is an increase of \$590,000 for fixed costs in program direction and a decrease of \$390,000 in evaluation and planning.

In transportation hybrid systems increases include \$4,000,000 for high power energy storage and \$4,000,000 for heavy vehicle propulsion. For fuel cell programs there are increases of \$1,600,000 for systems work and \$4,500,000 for fuel processor/storage work. In the advanced combustion engine program increases include \$3,000,000 for combustion and after treatment, \$1,000,000 for heavy truck engine research, and \$1,000,000 for health impacts of fuels. Other vehicle technology research and development increases include \$1,500,000 for cooperative automotive research for advanced technologies, \$500,000 for heavy vehicles/truck safety and \$1,000,000 for a cost shared program on engine boosting technology for light trucks and sport utility vehicles.

In fuels utilization there are increases of \$500,000 for petroleum based fuels and, in the alternative fuels program, \$500,000 for medium trucks, \$500,000 for heavy trucks and \$500,000 for environmental impacts. There is also a decrease of \$1,000,000 for health impacts of fuels because this program has been funded in the vehicle technology/advanced combustion engine activity.

Other changes in transportation programs include increases of \$2,900,000 in materials technology for heavy vehicle high strength weight reduction, \$2,300,000 for the clean cities program in technology deployment and \$126,500,000, which reverses the House floor action that eliminated funding for the Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles program.

There is also a decrease of \$21,500,000, which reverses a general increase adopted in House floor action. That increase has been spread across various programs.

Finally, in policy and management there are increases of \$225,000 for the working capital fund and \$278,000 for the Golden, CO, field office and a decrease of \$1,000,000 for the one-time cost associated with the National Academy of Sciences study funded in last year's Act.

The managers agree to the following:

1. The recently approved reorganization to separate distributed generation functions into a new office should be appropriately shown in future budget requests as should the realignment of management support services.

2. The Department should evaluate ambient temperature cure glass technology for air conditioning, which has the potential to reduce energy use for air conditioning, and incorporate that technology, as appropriate, in the Federal Energy Management Program.

3. Given the increases provided in the conference agreement, projects at the Northwest Alliance for Transportation Technologies should be funded at substantially higher levels than previous years.

4. Work with and at the National Transportation Research Center should also be continued and expanded.

5. The report required by the House dealing with engine boosting technology is not necessary. This issue should be addressed in the new program on this subject which is funded in the vehicle technology research and development activity.

6. With respect to the House direction on Postal Service vehicles, no funds should be used for electric vehicle purchases. Such purchases are the responsibility of the Postal Service and the cooperating States.

7. The managers are aware of recent technological advances that may increase opportunities for the application of homogenous charge combustion ignition technologies in mobile systems. This technology has the potential to reduce dramatically NO<sub>x</sub> and particulate emissions. The managers direct the Office of Energy Efficiency to submit a re-

port that outlines recent developments in this technology, describes related research being performed with Federal support, and discusses potential future directions for research and development. This report should be submitted by April 1, 2001. The managers further urge the Department to work with the National Research Council to address the potential of homogenous charge combustion ignition technology in its next annual review of the PNGV program.

8. Research on the biodesulfurization of gasoline should be continued in the petroleum industries of the future program and coordinated with programs in this area in Fossil Energy.

*Bill Language.*—The conference agreement earmarks a total of \$191,000,000 for energy conservation programs of which \$153,000,000 is earmarked for weatherization assistance grants and \$38,000,000 is earmarked for State energy conservation grants. The conference agreement modifies language proposed by the Senate permitting the waiver of cost sharing for weatherization assistance grants. Such waivers can be granted no more than twice. The modification specifies that such waivers can be granted for no more than 50 percent of the required cost share. In addition, the cost-sharing requirement for direct grants for weatherization assistance to Indian tribes is permanently waived.

#### ECONOMIC REGULATION

The conference agreement provides \$2,000,000 for economic regulation as proposed by the Senate instead of \$1,992,000 as proposed by the House.

#### STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides a total of \$165,000,000 for the strategic petroleum reserve, including the transfer of \$4,000,000 from the SPR petroleum account. The increase above the House is \$8,000,000 for the maintenance of a Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve. The House did not include the transfer from the SPR petroleum account. The Senate proposed a transfer of \$3,000,000 from the SPR petroleum account and a \$1,000,000 transfer from the Naval petroleum and oil shale reserves account to pay for the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve.

#### ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement provides \$75,675,000 for the Energy Information Administration instead of \$70,368,000 as proposed by the House and \$74,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The increase above the House level includes \$4,632,000 to continue core programs and \$675,000 for petroleum data improvements, of which \$150,000 is for an outlet level sampling frame for gasoline and diesel fuels, \$125,000 is to expand the current gasoline sample to allow the weekly publication of gasoline prices for key States and cities, \$100,000 is to upgrade the weekly petroleum information system to improve the reliability and accuracy of the data and \$300,000 is to institute a biweekly survey of companies during the heating season to monitor interruptible natural gas contracts.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

The conference agreement provides \$2,240,658,000 for Indian health services instead of \$2,106,178,000 as proposed by the House and \$2,184,421,000 as proposed by the Senate. The numerical changes described below are to the House recommended level.

In hospital and clinic programs there are increases of \$32,106,000 for pay costs, \$8,100,000 for staffing of new facilities, \$30,000,000 for the Indian health care improvement fund, \$225,000 for the Shoalwater

Bay infant mortality prevention program, \$500,000 for technology improvements and AIDS research at epidemiology centers, \$5,000,000 for loan repayment with emphasis on critical shortage specialties such as pharmacists, dentists and podiatrists, \$220,000 for the pharmacy residents program, \$1,000,000 for emergency medical services, \$1,000,000 to hire podiatrists and \$3,000,000 for technology upgrades.

For dental health programs, increases include \$2,365,000 for pay costs, \$792,000 for staffing of new facilities and \$8,000,000 for increased dental services. Increases in mental health programs include \$1,488,000 for pay costs and \$384,000 for staffing of new facilities. There is an increase of \$3,717,000 for pay costs associated with alcohol and substance abuse programs and a program increase of \$40,000,000 for contract health services. Increases of \$1,099,000 for pay costs and \$643,000 for staffing of new facilities are provided for public health nursing.

Health education programs are increased by \$326,000 for pay costs and \$134,000 for staffing of new facilities. The community health representative program is increased by \$1,787,000 for pay costs. Increases for the Alaska immunization program include \$70,000 for pay costs and \$2,000 for additional immunizations.

Increases for urban health programs include \$1,096,000 for pay costs and \$1,000,000 to incorporate the Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute dental program into the urban Indian health program in the Albuquerque, NM, area. The urban program for that area is funded pursuant to title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and run by First Nations Community HealthSources. With these additional funds, dental services will be available for the large urban Indian population in the Albuquerque, NM, area.

Other pay cost increases include \$62,000 for Indian health professions, \$2,075,000 for direct operations and \$294,000 for self-governance. Contract support costs increases include up to \$10,000,000 for new and expanded contracts and \$10,000,000 for existing contracts.

Finally, there are decreases of \$10,005,000 for staffing of new facilities because these costs have been spread among the appropriate accounts and \$22,000,000, which was a general increase in House floor action that has been spread among various accounts in the conference agreement.

The managers agree to the following:

1. The Service needs to do a better job of estimating costs, including the distribution of pay cost increases. These numbers should not be a "moving target" that changes substantially and continuously after the budget submission as was the case this year.

2. The Service should distribute the Indian health care improvement fund in accordance with the level of need methodology to ensure that the most underfunded tribes are funded at more equitable levels. There should be no set-aside of a portion of these funds to be distributed under an alternative methodology. The managers recognize that the LNF methodology may need some improvements and the Service should continue to make the necessary refinements.

3. The Service should report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations prior to finalizing any policy on the distribution of the Indian health care improvement fund for fiscal year 2001. The managers urge the Service to establish a minimum level of funds to be provided to individual service units. The Service also should provide a report on how the fiscal year 2000 funds were used to improve services to Indians and Alaska Natives.

4. Despite the reprimand in the House report, the Service has still not provided the

required plan of action to augment and strengthen its podiatric care program. Because of the pressing need in this area, the managers have taken actions in this conference report to address the problem. The report is still required as requested last year, and the managers expect that the directed consultation with outside groups will be fully and clearly explained in that report.

5. The Service should accept the offer from the American Podiatric Medical Association to assist in the recruitment and screening of candidates to fill podiatry positions in the Service. The APMA deserves credit for pursuing much needed improvements in the podiatry programs at IHS and has an excellent record with respect to prevention of diabetic amputations. The Service should consult with APMA on both the use of the \$1,000,000 increase provided to hire additional podiatrists and the use of the loan repayment program for podiatrists.

6. The Senate-required report on the proposed distribution of the general funding increase is not necessary because the increase has been distributed across the various programs in the conference agreement.

7. The Senate requirement to investigate possible inequities in funding allocations applies not only to the Ponca and the Salish and Kootenai tribes but to all tribes. The House has received several complaints from Oklahoma tribes. This investigation should be done in the context of the Indian Health Care Improvement Fund and the level of need methodology and does not require a separate report.

8. Within the funding provided for contract health services, the Indian Health Service should allocate an increase to the Ketchikan Indian Corporation's (KIC) recurring budget for hospital-related services for patients of KIC and the Organized Village of Saxman (OVS) to help implement the agreement reached by the Indian Health Service, KIC, OVS and the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corporation on September 12, 2000. The additional funding will enable KIC to purchase additional related services at the local Ketchikan General Hospital. The managers remain concerned that the viability of Alaska Native regional entities must be preserved. The accommodation by the managers of the September 12, 2000 agreement in no way is intended to imply that similar requests for similar arrangements will be encouraged or supported elsewhere in Alaska.

**Bill Language.**—The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate preventing contract health payments in excess of Medicare and Medicaid rates. The Secretary of Health and Human Services has authority to address this issue through the regulatory process. The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate giving tribes access to prime vendor rates that are available to the Service. This authority was enacted earlier this year. Language is included raising the amount for the Catastrophic Health Emergency Fund from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 and raising the cap for the loan repayment program from \$17,000,000 to \$22,000,000.

The conference agreement includes language proposed by the Senate providing up to \$10,000,000 for contract support costs associated with new and expanded self-determination contracts and self-governance compacts. The managers note that, unlike the Bureau of Indian Affairs, that funds all contract support cost requirements at the same rate, the Service has a varying scale. The managers urge the Office of Management and Budget to work with the BIA and the IHS to address discrepancies between the two bureaus with respect to the calculation and distribution of contract support costs. At present, the IHS pays many more categories

of costs than does BIA, and the rate of contract support cost payments relative to the level of need is higher in IHS than in BIA. These discrepancies should be addressed, and the managers suggest that the Office of Management and Budget is the appropriate organization to do so.

#### INDIAN HEALTH FACILITIES

The conference agreement provides \$363,904,000 for Indian health facilities instead of \$336,423,000 as proposed by the House and \$349,350,000 as proposed by the Senate. The numerical changes described below are to the House recommended level.

In maintenance and improvement, increases include \$2,000,000 to address the maintenance backlog and \$1,000,000 for the Northwest Portland area AMEX program with the understanding that AMEX includes cost sharing in excess of 50 percent and there will be no increase for base funding requirements for these projects. Increases for sanitation facilities include \$206,000 for pay costs and a program increase of \$1,500,000.

For hospital and clinic construction, there are increases of \$118,000 for the Parker, AZ, clinic, \$5,000,000 for small ambulatory facilities with the understanding that there will be no additional operating funds associated with these projects, \$5,000,000 for staff quarters in Bethel, AK, \$5,000,000 for joint ventures and \$2,000,000 for Hopi, AZ, staff quarters.

For facilities and environmental health support, increases include \$3,657,000 for pay costs and \$1,665,000 for staffing of new facilities. There is also an increase of \$2,000,000 for equipment to raise the total annual funding available for equipment at tribally built facilities from \$3 million to \$5 million and a decrease of \$1,665,000 for staffing of new facilities because this amount has been included in the facilities and environmental health support activity.

The managers agree to the following:

1. The Service is urged to package together several staff quarters projects whenever possible to attract more bidders for construction projects and to lower costs. The various projects on the priority list for Navajo and other tribes in the area should be reviewed as potential candidates for packaging as should staff quarters projects in other areas where such projects can be combined to attract additional interest and achieve savings.

2. For the joint venture program, up to 3 projects may be funded, at least 2 of which are replacement facilities.

3. Any funds not needed for completion of individual construction projects should be reported to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations as soon as identified. These funds should subsequently be used to offset requirements for other projects on the priority list. To the extent that such funds become available in fiscal year 2001, they may be used for clinic design for the next three facilities on the outpatient priority list.

**Bill Language.**—The conference agreement includes language, as proposed by the Senate, directing funds to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation for construction of the Bethel, AK, staff quarters and earmarking \$5,000,000 for the joint venture program with specific instructions on program implementation. The House had no similar provisions. Language also is included increasing the earmark for funds to be provided to the Hopi Tribe from \$240,000 to \$2,240,000 to reduce the debt incurred by the Tribe in providing staff quarters associated with the new Hopi Health Center. Language also is included permitting the use of contracts for small ambulatory facilities.