New Jersey Network’s Response to Budget Questions
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BUDGET QUESTIONS FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS AND UNITS

1. For each line item reduction in the department’s or unit’s budget, specify the change, if any, in the nature, breadth or level of service or benefit that will be provided and identify and quantify the population that may be affected.

   The proposed FY 2011 State budget calls for a 50% reduction in the State appropriation for New Jersey Network (NJN) from $4.0 million to $2.0 million. The FY 2011 State Budget Report states that “This reduction assumes that the State of New Jersey will no longer be in the public television business after December 31, 2010, and that NJN will operate independently as of January 1, 2011.”

   NJN is working with the Administration and will work with legislators to understand the necessary planning assumptions in order to build a balanced budget that ensures the people of New Jersey continue to have public broadcasting services.

2. For each line item reduction in the department’s or unit’s budget, please indicate the number of positions (budgeted, funded and filled or unfilled) that will be eliminated and the number of individuals whose employment will be ended. If appropriate, distinguish between staffing actions that may occur before and after January 1, 2011.

   Pending additional information from the State, NJN has not completed its FY 2011 budget.
3. Please identify any reductions in the department’s or unit’s budget that constitute one-time savings that are not likely to recur in Fiscal Year 2012.

**No additional savings are available.**

4. Please identify each Fiscal Year 2010 mid-year reduction that is recommended for continuation in Fiscal Year 2011.

**Not applicable.**

5. Are any of the appropriations recommended for Fiscal Year 2011 required to compensate for the effects of Fiscal Year 2010 reductions? If so, please identify and explain.

**Not applicable.**

6. Please list any anticipated increase in fees, fares or co-payments that are reflected in the FY 2011 budget recommendation, including the amount of revenue or cost reduction, and the intended effective date.

**Pending additional information from the State, NJN has not completed its FY 2011 budget.**

7. If additional revenues were to become available during the budget process, which one or two reductions proposed for the department or unit should be top candidates for restoration? Please justify your selections.

**Pending additional information from the State, NJN has not completed its FY 2011 budget.**

8. Please identify proposed budget reductions which require Federal approvals, waivers or similar actions, and the timetable for seeking and obtaining approvals in order to achieve the projected savings. Please indicate whether approvals/waivers have been previously sought and not obtained, and explain why approvals should be expected in this case. If federal approval is not received, what alternative actions may have to be taken to achieve savings of comparable value? Please also identify proposed budget reductions that may reduce the receipt of federal funds, and the estimated loss of federal funds that would result from such reductions.

**Not applicable.**
9. Please describe how the department or unit implemented mandatory workforce furloughs in FY 2010, identifying the amount saved and the proportion of the workforce exempt from furloughs, and detailing the impact on individuals or firms served by or regulated by the department.

There were no exemptions from furloughs. The estimated savings to the state was $365,000. Each department manager supervised the orderly rotation of self-directed furlough days. For the two mandatory furlough days, NJN had minimal staff running TV master control and radio operations; all other operations were shut down. A smaller staff meant that NJN could not produce and broadcast NJN News for viewers on these mandatory furlough days. Minimum staff assigned to air operations on mandatory furlough dates were given alternate furlough days at a later date.

10. The Budget in Brief references savings to be achieved both through privatization and "in-sourcing." Please identify savings in your budget associated with either of these initiatives. Please provide examples of successes or failures of such initiatives in prior years.

In the transition report issued on January 22, 2010, Governor Christie's Authorities Transition Team recommended that: "In order to save taxpayer dollars, a goal should be to make NJN self-reliant during the first term." More recently, in the Governor's Budget Address, the Governor stated that "New Jersey Network can and will succeed as an independent not-for-profit, and we should free it to pursue that path." The proposed State budget calls for a reduction in NJN's State appropriation by 50%, from about $4.0 million to $2.0 million. In the FY 2011 Budget in Brief, it states, "This reduction assumes that the State of New Jersey will no longer be in the public television business after December 31, 2010, and that NJN will operate independently as of January 1, 2011."

NJN Board leadership and staff are developing a new Business Plan so that it can comply with the Administration's announcements.

There are currently a total of 174 public television licenses in the United States; 90 are non-profit community licenses, and 20 are state licenses. Examples of former State entities now operating as community licensees include Oregon Public Television and Radio, Hawaii Public Television, Maine Public Television, Vermont Public Television. All are currently operating as viable organizations.