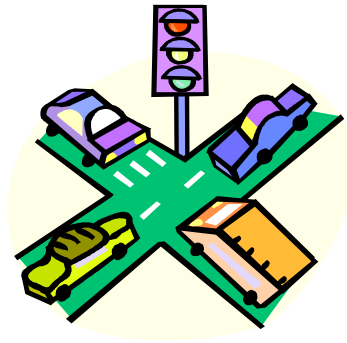


ACTION LEARNING SCENARIO #3

USGS Fleet Management



*Champion:
Carol Aten*

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*Coach:
Dianne Jeffries*

*Leadership 201
April 11-15, 2005*



USGS Fleet Management

Sponsor: Carol Aten

The Issue:

USGS is under substantial pressure from the Department to centralize the acquisition and management of vehicles. One bureau (BLM) has a centralized program (budgeting, purchasing, assigning and charging for vehicles) and others are moving in that direction. USGS would like to find a way to enhance efficiency and be able to provide better oversight (and reporting capability) while continuing to have vehicles managed in the field where they are needed, paid for, and used.

Based on the assumption that we are not optimizing our fleet resources (see GAO and IG reports), DOI and Congress have reduced USGS funding for fleet by \$975,000 in FY 2005 and an additional reduction of \$250,000 is proposed in the President's FY 2006 budget. These reductions are being applied to the science programs, where vehicle costs are paid.

In August, 2004, Lynn Scarlett, then Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Policy, Management and Budget and incoming Deputy Secretary, was interviewed on the NBC Evening News. The transcript is at the end of this charge. This is included to illustrate the level of attention this issue has.

The Challenge:

What steps can we take to comply with DOI requirements for better management, oversight, and reporting, and how can we more efficiently manage our fleet vehicles? USGS has been asked to submit a plan. What should that plan say?

Background Information:

The background information attached provides data on USGS's current fleet, DOI objectives, IG and GAO criticisms, other bureau plans, USGS draft plan outline, current fleet management policies and procedures, etc.

The Department has said they like the Bureau of Reclamation's plan because it has a "very well organized approach to roles and responsibilities, clear lines of accountability, an outline of the process, and review of fleet plans at the management level."

You may want to interview the USGS Property Management Officer (PMO), Melissa Courtney, or members of her staff to get additional insights or other information.

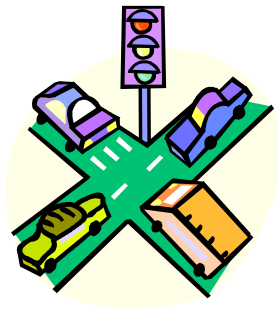
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