



**U.S. Chemical Safety and
Hazard Investigation Board**

BUDGET REQUEST

FY 2025

**FY 2025 Budget Request
Table of Contents**

Contents

I. Introduction 3

II. Vision, Mission and Strategic Goals 5

III. Budget Request 6

IV. Budget by Object Classification Category 14

V. Additional Tables
 Appropriations by Fiscal Years 18
 Personnel Data 20
 Organization Chart..... 21
 Recommended Appropriations Language..... 22

I. Introduction

As an independent, non-regulatory agency, the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board's (CSB) mission is to drive chemical safety change through independent investigations to protect communities, workers, and the environment. To that end, the CSB conducts comprehensive investigations of serious chemical incidents, which are often preventable with the effective implementation of robust safety management systems. The agency then makes recommendations aimed at preventing or mitigating the consequences of similar incidents.

The CSB is a unique agency, modeled after the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). CSB investigations have collectively identified gaps in regulatory requirements, industry standards and guidance, workforce training and operations, and emergency planning and response that caused or exacerbated the human and environmental consequences of chemical incidents.

Throughout its 25-year history, the CSB has initiated more than 170 deployments to chemical incidents and issued nearly 1,000 safety recommendations. Incidents investigated by the CSB have resulted in more than 200 fatalities, over 1,200 injuries, and significant damage to property and the environment.

The agency's goals set out a framework to address the many challenges that have faced the CSB in recent years, rebuild and revitalize the agency, and successfully execute our mission to "Drive chemical safety excellence through independent investigations to protect communities, workers, and the environment." The CSB educates and prompts action from regulators, industry personnel, standard-setting organizations, academia, and the American people to ensure that facilities that use hazardous chemicals properly manage their risk and perform their work in a safe manner with a goal of reaching our vision of "A nation free from chemical disasters."

As of December 26, 2023, the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) completely eliminated its long-standing backlog of investigations. From July 29, 2022, through December 26, 2023, the CSB issued a total of 17 final investigation reports. These 17 reports are the most that the CSB has ever issued in such a short period and the CSB's highest level of productivity in its history. Six of the reports were issued in the last few months of 2022. The other 11 reports were issued during 2023.

Ultimately, the heart of the CSB is our team. Achieving our goals and keeping communities safe depends on the hard work and commitment of our excellent dedicated career professional staff. A key focus is to grow, support, and develop our agency's team so that we will have an experienced workforce large enough to carry out our mission, including deploying to chemical incidents on a more frequent and regular basis while ensuring that a backlog of investigation reports does not occur again. Because the CSB has experienced significant attrition in recent years, we must work not only to increase the number of staff focused on the agency's core mission, but also provide resources, training, and support that the staff needs to ensure the agency's long-term success.

Although the CSB is a micro-agency with a budget of just \$14.4 million in FY 2024, the agency consistently advances chemical safety in the United States. The impact of the CSB's investigations and recommendations has resulted in significant safety improvements throughout the country across a wide variety of industries.

The CSB's modest annual budget stands in direct contrast with the large cost of chemical disasters. The CSB has investigated numerous high-consequence incidents that have resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in damage and disruptions to regional and local economies. Recent examples include:

- On June 21, 2019, an explosion and fire at the Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) Refinery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, resulted in the release of over 5,000 pounds of highly toxic hydrofluoric acid. The loss associated with the incident was estimated at \$750 million with the refinery shutting down and the loss of over 1,000 jobs.
- On March 17, 2019, a tank farm fire occurred at the Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC (ITC) bulk liquid storage terminal in Deer Park, Texas. The massive fire caused substantial property damage, significantly impacted the environment, and led to the issuance of several shelter-in-place orders that seriously disrupted the local community. The fire burned for three days and caused over \$150 million in property damage.
- On August 27, 2020, a fire occurred at Bio-Lab's Lake Charles facility in Westlake, LA. The large fire caused extensive damage to the facility. Ultimately, Bio-Lab spent over \$250 million to rebuild.
- On April 8, 2021, a flammable vapor explosion and fire occurred at the Yenkin-Majestic facility in Columbus, OH. One employee died during the incident, and eight other workers were injured. Over 100 firefighters responded to the scene, including hazmat teams. Nearby buildings were damaged, and a fire broke out at an adjacent property. Local news outlets reported that the explosion shook nearby homes and was seen, heard, or felt throughout parts of Columbus. Yenkin-Majestic estimated that the incident caused over \$90 million in property damage to the site.
- On November 27, 2019, explosions and fires occurred at the TPC Group Port Neches Operations facility chemical plant in Port Neches, Texas, when a piping section ruptured, releasing highly flammable butadiene that quickly ignited. The resulting pressure wave destroyed parts of the facility and injured two TPC employees and a security contractor. The incident caused \$450 million in on-site property damage and \$153 million in off-site property damage to nearby homes and businesses. The blast was reportedly felt up to 30 miles away. Officials issued a mandatory four-mile radius evacuation order that affected people in several nearby cities. The explosion also led to reduced usage of the Sabine-Neches Waterway, the nation's third largest waterway by cargo volume and a major economic driver in the U.S.

If the CSB's many safety lessons and recommendations prevent at least one catastrophic incident, the costs avoided from damage to facilities and the surrounding communities and the environment, legal settlements, and the loss of human life far outweigh the agency's annual budget. Safety and prosperity are compatible. Strong safety programs are critical for the economic success of the many industries that use, process, or work with hazardous chemicals. If we do not learn from previous incidents, Americans will continue to spend billions of dollars responding to future incidents. Through its independent investigations, the CSB plays a unique role in fostering collaboration with industry, regulators, standards-setting bodies, and professional organizations, to work together to drive critical chemical safety change in the United States.

II. Vision, Mission and Strategic Goals

Vision

A nation free from chemical disasters.

Mission

Drive chemical safety excellence through independent investigations to protect communities, workers, and the environment.

Strategic Goals

Goal 1 – Prevent recurrence of significant chemical incidents through independent investigations.

- 1.1. Investigate or review incidents and hazards to generate recommendations or findings with broad preventative impact.
- 1.2. Complete timely, high-quality investigations that determine the causes of incidents.
- 1.3. Develop and issue recommendations with broad preventive impact.

Goal 2 – Advocate safety and achieve change through recommendations, outreach, and education.

- 2.1. Pursue the implementation of recommendations.
- 2.2. Identify and strategically promote key chemical safety issues.
- 2.3. Create and disseminate chemical safety information using a variety of engaging, high-visibility tools and products.

Goal 3 – Recruit and maintain an engaged, high-performing workforce.

- 3.1. Implement effective recruiting and skills-based training and mentorship.
- 3.2. Encourage management development and leadership at all levels.
- 3.3. Increase retention across the agency to ensure continuity.
- 3.4. Strengthen operational performance and project management efforts.

III. Budget Request

Budget Request Summary

The CSB requests a budget of \$17.4 million in FY 2025 to pursue its unique safety mission and continuing operations. This is an increase of \$3.0 million, or 20.83% above the \$14.4 million appropriation for FY 2024.

The requested amount allows the CSB to maintain and develop its investigations program and safety outreach capabilities; enhance its infrastructure; hire much-needed chemical incident investigators and other key staff who are critical to fully performing the CSB's mission; continue implementation of the President's initiatives for information technology (IT) modernization, including transitioning to an all-electronic environment for records preservation and transparency; and increasing the accessibility of Federal information to the American public, including increased accessibility to the CSB's investigative records. To successfully achieve its mission for FY 2025 and beyond, the CSB will require additional funding in several areas that are described in the object classification detail.

The requested increase in FY 2025 also provides full-year funding for positions that are to be filled during FY 2024. As of the time of this FY 2025 budget request submission, the CSB has several vacant positions for its mission-critical occupation, Chemical Incident Investigator. The agency is continuing to hire for these and other key positions that remain vacant in FY 2024 – with the intent of ensuring a fully staffed agency that meets the agency's mission. The requested additional funds for FY 2025 will enable the CSB to prevent a backlog in investigative reports from occurring in the future, while deploying to chemical incidents on a more consistent basis.

In FY 2025 the CSB is asking for two-year funds to allow the agency to be better stewards of taxpayer dollars. Increased flexibility will give the agency additional abilities to spend full-year allocations efficiently and ultimately increase the CSB's ability to perform long-term strategic and budget planning more effectively. Due to frequent continuing resolutions and the passage of full-year funding months after the beginning of a fiscal year, it can be difficult for the CSB to efficiently utilize all its appropriated single-year funds in the remaining period of the fiscal year. Because the CSB is a small federal agency with limited staff, two-year funds will allow us to complete longer-term projects strategically. Because of the CSB's small size and limited resources, the agency also must utilize third-party providers for hiring and some contract actions. These actions can take an extensive amount of time, and having the additional flexibility provided by two-year funds will enable the CSB to increase our capabilities in these areas as well.

With the additional funding and flexibility provided in FY 2025 the CSB will also enhance the agency's information technology (IT) infrastructure. The CSB anticipates increases in executing its administrative and legal requirements with the implementation of new publicly available databases, such as data gathered from the CSB's accidental release reporting rule, in addition to implementing a new FOIA database and enhanced IT security and infrastructure improvements.

The CSB also is requesting language in the FY 2025 appropriations clarifying the agency's authority to lease office space in Washington, DC. The CSB's enabling legislation authorizes the CSB "to enter into contracts, leases, cooperative agreements or other transactions as may be necessary in the conduct of the duties and functions of the Board with any other agency, institution, or person." Under this authority, the CSB has leased office space in Washington, DC for the

agency's headquarters since the CSB began operations in January 1998 and entered into the lease for its present office space in 2014. Recently, however, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) opined that the CSB needs additional language from Congress stating that the CSB may lease office space specifically in the District of Columbia or more broadly "wherever situated" or "at the seat of the government and elsewhere". The GAO said that such language could be included in the CSB's appropriations. The CSB worked with the Office of Management (OMB) on this matter and has included clarifying language drafted by OMB in the "Recommended Appropriations Language" at the end of this document.

CSB Accomplishments

Investigations

The CSB's first strategic goal is to prevent recurrence of significant chemical incidents through independent investigations. When the former CSB Chairperson resigned in late July 2022, the CSB had an unacceptable backlog of seventeen (17) open investigations that had accumulated for a number of years, with some of the open investigations dating as far back as 2016. Beginning in the remaining months of FY 2022 through the end of calendar year 2023, under the agency's new leadership the CSB issued final reports for all 17 investigations, completely eliminating the long-standing backlog. These 17 reports are the most that the CSB has ever issued in such a short period and the CSB's highest level of productivity in its history. The CSB issued six of the reports in the last few months of 2022. The other 11 reports were issued during calendar year 2023.

More specifically, the incident investigation reports approved and released by the CSB Board in FY 2023 include:

- Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) Refinery Fire and Explosions (released in October 2022)
- TPC Port Neches Explosions and Fire (released in December 2022)
- Kuraray Pasadena Release and Fire (released in December 2022)
- Husky Energy Superior Refinery Explosion and Fire (released in December 2022)
- Bio-Lab Lake Charles Chemical Fire and Release (released in April 2023)
- LyondellBasell La Porte Fatal Chemical Release (released in May 2023)
- Wacker Polysilicon Chemical Release (released in June 2023)
- Watson Grinding Fatal Explosion and Fire (released in June 2023)
- Optima Belle Explosion and Fire (released in July 2023)
- Intercontinental Terminals Company (TPC) Tank Fire (released in July 2023)

During FY 2024 the CSB issued final reports for the five remaining investigations, completely eliminating the backlog. They were:

- Yenkin-Majestic Paint and OPC Polymers Fatal Explosion and Fire (released in November 2023)
- Didion Milling Combustible Dust Fatal Explosion (released in December 2023)
- Foundation Food Group Fatal Liquid Nitrogen Release (released in December 2023)
- KMCO Fatal Fire and Explosion (released in December 2023)

- Wendland 1-H Well Fatal Gas Well Explosion (released in December 2023)

Current Deployments and Investigations

BP Husky Refinery Explosion and Fire (Oregon, OH): On September 20, 2022, an accidental release of flammable chemicals ignited, creating a fire that fatally injured two workers and resulted in substantial property damages at the BP Husky refinery in Oregon, Ohio. **The CSB released a factual update on June 13, 2023. The CSB anticipates completion of its final report during the Summer of 2024.**

Marathon Renewables Facility Fire (Martinez, CA): On November 19, 2023, an accidental release of renewable diesel fuel and hydrogen resulted in a fire that seriously injured one worker and resulted in property damage at the Marathon facility in Martinez, California. **The CSB released a factual update on February 21, 2024. The CSB anticipates completion of its final report during the calendar year 2024.**

The CSB also initiated an initial investigation of the fatal explosion at the R.M. Palmer facility in West Reading, PA, in March 2023 that fatally injured seven people. The CSB ceased its investigation after the NTSB determined that it had jurisdiction for the incident.

Recommendations

The CSB's second strategic goal is to pursue safety change through safety recommendations, outreach, and education. Since its creation, the CSB has issued nearly 1,000 recommendations to industry, trade associations, standards-setting bodies, and state, local, and Federal agencies to advance chemical safety practices. During FY 2023 alone, the CSB issued 85 recommendations. These recommendations are the CSB's primary tools for preventing future chemical incidents and mitigating consequences when they do occur. The CSB's recommendations drive critical chemical safety change.

The CSB continues to prioritize recommendation closures in FY 2024 and made significant progress on many of its open recommendations. Currently, of the 990 recommendations, 826 (83%) have been closed and 164 (15%) are open.

The CSB also advocates safety outreach and collaboration. Throughout FY 2023 and 2024, the CSB continued its commitment to increased transparency. The CSB continues to hold quarterly business meetings which include a public comment period. During the meetings Board Members and staff discuss current agency activities and review recently released investigations. This provides the public with insight into the staff's investigative process, including the facts and analysis, conclusions, and recommendations in the investigations.

Safety Outreach and Collaboration

In FY 2023 and now in FY 2024, the CSB continued its commitment to increased transparency. The CSB has continued its virtual quarterly Sunshine Act Board Business Meetings which include a public comment period. During the meetings Board Members and staff discuss current

activities and review recently released investigations. This provides the public with insight into the staff's investigative process, the facts and analysis, conclusions, and recommendations.

The CSB also has been posting on its website data that the agency has received under its Accidental Release Reporting Rule (ARRR), a practice that the agency began during FY 2022. The most recent data posted on the agency's website on January 25, 2024, covers 357 chemical incidents involving fatalities at 49 facilities, serious injuries at 195 facilities, and substantial property damage at 165 facilities nationwide.

Consistent with the CSB's mandate for outreach and education, many of the CSB's investigations are featured in videos on the agency's YouTube Channel. With over 320,000 subscribers and more than 55 million views overall, the safety video program is the CSB's most visible program.

For example:

In October 2023, the CSB released one of its most successful safety videos to date. The CSB's safety video "Wake Up Call: Refinery Disaster in Philadelphia," details a fire, explosions, and a release of highly toxic hydrofluoric acid (HF) that occurred at the Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) refinery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on June 21, 2019. The video reached one million views in just over a week, the most views ever of a CSB safety video in such a short period of time. The video has been viewed over 1.8 million times.

In December 2002 the CSB released a safety video entitled "Ignored Warnings: Explosion in St. Louis," about a fatal explosion that occurred on April 3, 2017, at the Loy-Lange Box Company in St Louis, Missouri. The incident occurred when a severely corroded pressure vessel catastrophically failed, causing an explosion that launched the pressure vessel into a neighboring building. One worker and three members of the public were killed. This video has received over 1.3 million views to date.

Also in December of 2022, the CSB released a CSB animation about the 2018 ethylene release and fire that injured 23 workers at the Kuraray America, Inc. EVAL plant in Pasadena, Texas. The animation has been viewed over 520,000 times.

In June 2023, the CSB released its final safety video about the April 2018 explosion and fire at the Husky Superior Refinery in Superior, Wisconsin. The incident injured 36 workers, caused roughly \$550 million in damage to the facility, and released 39,000 pounds of flammable hydrocarbon vapor into the air. Over 2,500 residents of the City of Superior were evacuated from their homes, and the City of Duluth, Minnesota, issued a shelter in place order. To date the video has received over 880,000 views.

Most recently, in July 2023 the CSB released a safety video on the November 2019 incident at the TPC Group Chemical Plant in Port Neches, Texas. A series of explosions destroyed a portion of the TPC facility, damaged nearby homes and businesses, and prompted a mandatory evacuation of residents living within four miles of the plant. Several workers and members of the public reported injuries and fires burned at the facility for over a month. The incident caused \$450 million in on-site property damage and \$153 million in off-site property damage to nearby homes and businesses. Media reports indicated that the blast was felt up to 30 miles away. The video has been viewed over 2.3 million times so far, the largest number of

views for any CSB video ever.

The CSB's safety video program continues to be the most dynamic and successful way for the agency to share its safety information.

During FY 2023 CSB staff participated in several events across the country related to ongoing investigations work as well as process safety management seminars and symposium. The CSB's Board and staff also presented at a number of events, which allowed the CSB's safety information to reach a wide and diverse audience, including the following:

- American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers Annual Conference
- American Chemistry Council Ethylene Oxide Safety Seminar
- National Association of Chemical Distributors Spring Regulatory Workshop
- Egyptian Ministry of Petroleum
- United Steel Workers Annual Health and Safety Conference
- Petrochemical and Refining Summit
- Town Hall Meeting in Houston, Texas on ITC Final Investigation Report
- National Fire Protection Association's Annual Conference
- Texas Chemical Council Annual Meeting
- The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors Executive Committee Meeting
- National Safety Council Executive Business Issues Forum
- National Association of Chemical Distributors Regulatory Workshop
- Environmental Council of the States 2023 Spring Meeting
- Hispanics in Energy Winter 2023 Meeting
- National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Winter Meeting
- Community Awareness and Emergency Response Summer 2023 Safety Summit

Create and maintain an engaged, high-performing workforce

Goal 3 emphasizes organizational excellence. Under prior agency leadership, the CSB suffered serious attrition and fell to its lowest staff level since the early days of the agency's existence.

In FY 2023, CSB continued its recruiting efforts to fill multiple vacancies for the agency's mission critical position, Chemical Incident Investigator, as well as other key staff positions. Industry trends toward more complex engineering processes, and human interactions with these processes, drive a need for the CSB to strengthen our capacity to analyze emerging technologies and deploy to incidents in new industries. In FY 2023, the CSB hired four new Chemical Incident Investigators and one Investigation Supervisor, two Recommendations Specialists, as well as a Deputy CIO, a Financial Management Specialist, and two Contracting personnel. During FY 2024 to date, the CSB also has filled other key positions including a Director of Administration, an IT Specialist, a Board Affairs Specialist, and a Human Resources Specialist, as well as three chemical engineers through the Pathways Program to assist with the agency's

efforts in connection with the Accidental Release Reporting Rule. These Pathways investigators will also receive training to become full chemical incident investigators in the future. Further, the CSB recently hired a senior attorney to fill a vacancy in the agency's Office of General Counsel and is recruiting for a Records Management Specialist and an additional attorney to handle requests under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and other matters.

In FY 2023, the CSB also worked to improve operational excellence to enhance its information technology security and efficiency. The new CIO and Deputy CIO have made significant progress toward addressing the cybersecurity and IT infrastructure issues that have challenged the CSB for several years.

In FY 2023, a half dozen legacy systems were decommissioned and replaced with modern Windows Server 2022 systems and Office 365 services. Multifactor authentication is now required for remote access to CSB systems and CSB's Office365 tenant. On-premises email services have been transitioned to Exchange Online, and the old server was shut down to improve the agency's cybersecurity posture. The CSB now leverages Microsoft Azure cloud services for daily backups of servers and data. The CSB also is enrolled in several CISA programs to improve the cybersecurity tools and resources available to the agency. The CSB continues to make investments in its IT infrastructure to meet the agency's mission while rapidly improving its compliance with FISMA, CISA operational directives, and work toward the Zero Trust cybersecurity principles outlined in OMB memorandum M-22-09.

FY 2025 Budget Request

The CSB is requesting a budget of \$17.4 million in FY 2025 to execute its unique safety mission and continuing operations, plus the development of new databases and practices to increase transparency and information sharing with the public and stakeholders.

Over 90% of the funds requested in FY 2025 will be distributed into three main budget categories: personnel compensation and benefits, rent, and other services. Of the requested \$17.4 million, compensation costs, including fringe benefits, account for \$12.6 million – or 72% of the total agency budget. To procure mandatory services provided by other government agencies, such as payroll, personnel management, accounting, procurement, occupational health services, and other non-governmental contractors, the CSB requests \$3.0 million – or 17.7% of the agency's budget request. Finally, \$552,000 – or 3.1% – is requested for rent, which includes office space in Washington, DC.

The requested funding will allow the CSB to maintain and further develop programmatic activities that support its three strategic goals.

- **Investigations.** The CSB evaluates serious chemical incidents and initiates investigations where there are significant chemical safety consequences or issues with high potential for learning. To complete these investigations, the agency identifies the root causes of chemical incidents, issues recommendations to eliminate safety gaps, and shares findings broadly across industries that use hazardous chemicals. CSB investigations are transparent. The agency conducts press briefings and public hearings to share findings, obtain additional facts and address concerns from members of the

community. Investigative materials are available on the agency's website, along with video recordings of Board Meetings.

- **Safety Promotion and Outreach.** The agency collaborates with stakeholder groups and works with recommendations recipients – including government entities, safety organizations, trade associations, corporations, labor organizations, emergency response organizations, and educational institutions – to implement the Board's safety recommendations. The CSB continues to release safety videos and other products to ensure that valuable safety lessons are available to broad audiences to maximize their preventive impact.
- **Operational Excellence.** The CSB strives for continual improvement to promote organizational efficiency. In FY 2024 the agency will continue to increase staffing on the investigations team and in other key positions to meet our mission. The loss of experienced personnel in prior years, combined with other circumstances, resulted in a significant backlog of investigation reports, which the CSB has now completely eliminated, and a decline in on-site deployments to incident scenes by the agency. This FY 2025 budget request enables the CSB to continue to recruit and retain much-needed staff. The CSB also will continue efforts to improve management metrics and accountability to ensure that investigations are completed in a timely manner and resources are strategically allocated to advance chemical safety change. Finally, the CSB will continue using its IT system to support the growing electronic records environment and increase productivity using cloud-based applications and systems.

The CSB currently receives information on at least one reportable chemical incident a week under the agency's Accidental Release Reporting Rule (and often more). Since the rule went into effect in March 2020, the CSB has received reports on over 350 chemicals incidents that fall under the agency's purview. The CSB consistently follows up on all the events within our jurisdiction.

The requested FY 2025 increase is primarily to provide full-year funding for positions filled in FY 2024 and enable the CSB to hire additional mission-critical Chemical Incident Investigators to restore the number of investigators to close to their former level. At the time of this 2025 budget request submission, the CSB still has several vacant investigator positions and as previously stated, is actively recruiting and hiring. During FY 2023 and the beginning of FY 2024, the CSB made significant achievements in the agency's hiring objectives, including Director of Administration, a deputy CIO, and additional IT, HR, contracting and finance staff. Even with this progress, however, additional staff is needed, including more mission-critical investigators.

With critical vacancies being filled in FY 2024, the CSB anticipates an increased ability to conduct more investigations in FY 2025. As a result, slight increases will be needed for investigation-related costs such as travel and consultants, along with the additional cost of fully funded positions in FY 2025.

Conclusion

The CSB's FY 2025 budget request for \$17.4 million allows the CSB to execute its critical safety mission, strengthening its capacity to conduct comprehensive investigations of catastrophic chemical incidents and to provide targeted recommendations that yield safety returns to the chemical industry and protect communities, workers, and the environment. By sharing the safety lessons from its incident investigations with industry, workers, and the public, the CSB maintains its role as a premier resource for chemical safety lessons learned. The agency will also continue to retain existing employees and recruit new talent. The resources developed by the CSB are used nationwide to prevent the loss of life, injuries, and damage to surrounding communities that result from these preventable chemical incidents. This investment in the CSB allows the agency to become more effective in completing and distributing its important life-saving work. As the agency continues to investigate chemical incidents, the Board's recommendations will draw on the agency's robust history of chemical safety knowledge so that new and emerging industries will benefit from the best practices and safety advancements implemented, with greater protection for communities, workers and the environment. The CSB is a modest Federal investment with a large potential return: improved safety practices and requirements and long-term economic sustainability for industries that use hazardous chemicals, which in turn better protects communities, workers and the environment and saves more lives.

IV. Budget by Object Classification Category

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) requests \$17.4 million for FY 2025. The funding requested will enable the CSB to achieve its core mission, as required by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. The proposed budget for FY 2025 is shown in the table below by budget object classification with a comparison to the FY 2024 projected costs. The table is supported with a narrative explanation of the amount requested for each budget object classification.

Budget Object Classification Table

Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025

Budget Object Class		Projected FY 2024*	Requested FY 2025	Change FY 2024-2025	
				\$	%
11	Personnel Compensation	\$7,177,000	\$9,400,000	\$2,223,000	30.97%
12	Personnel Benefits	\$2,515,000	\$3,229,000	\$714,000	28.39%
Subtotal Personnel Costs		\$9,692,000	12,629,000	\$2,937,000	30.30%
21	Travel	\$269,000	\$570,000	\$301,000	111.90%
22	Transportation of Things	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
23.2	Space Rental Payments	\$725,000	\$552,000	-\$173,000	-23.86%
23.3	Communications, Utilities and Misc.	\$218,000	\$171,000	-\$47,000	-21.56%
24	Printing and Reproduction	\$17,000	\$18,000	\$1,000	5.88%
25	Other Services	\$3,175,000	\$3,084,000	-\$91,000	-2.87%
26	Supplies and Materials	\$254,000	\$275,000	\$21,000	8.27%
31	Equipment	\$50,000	\$101,000	\$51,000	102.00%
Totals		\$14,400,000	\$17,400,000	\$3,000,000	20.83%
FTE		52	58	6	11.54%

* [H.R.4366 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024](#)

Budget Object Classification Detail

11.0 Personnel Compensation

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$7,177,000	\$9,400,000	\$2,223,000	30.97%

The budget request for FY 2025 includes \$9,400,000 to fund direct payroll costs for five board members and 53 staff members. This object class includes promotions and step increases to retain and advance entry and intermediate level employees.

12.0 Personnel Benefits

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$2,515,000	\$3,229,000	\$714,000	28.39%

CSB personnel benefits include the government's contributions to the CSRS and FERS retirement programs; life and health insurance programs; the student loan repayment program; the Transit Subsidy Program; and the Thrift Savings Plan. The FY 2025 request reflects benefits for five board members and 53 staff members.

21.0 Travel

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$269,000	\$570,000	\$301,000	111.90%

CSB board members and staff are required to travel to conduct the agency's core work of investigating incidents and advocating for safety change through recommendations and outreach. In addition, travel is required for remote workers between remote duty stations and CSB offices in Washington, DC, as well as to certain training courses. The CSB requests an increase of \$301,000 to provide for additional travel primarily to deploy to more incidents as well as Board Members' outreach initiatives.

22.0 Transportation of Things

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$0	\$0	\$0	0%

The CSB does not anticipate any shipment costs in FY 2025.

23.2 Space Rental Payments

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$725,000	\$552,000	-\$173,000	-23.86%

The CSB anticipates a decrease in space rental costs in FY 2025. This is due to rent reductions as the agency's current lease for its Washington, D.C., office nears conclusion.

23.3 Communications, Utilities and Misc.

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$218,000	\$171,000	-\$47,000	-21.56%

Communication and postage costs are projected to be \$171,000 in FY 2025. The communication cost includes \$118,000 to provide internet bandwidth for the volume of data transmitted across the agency and to webcast meetings to the public. Other communications and utilities costs include \$42,000 for Smartphones and Broad band, \$5,000 for postage and express mail, and \$6,000 in costs associated with building security and continuity of operations.

24.0 Printing and Reproduction

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$17,000	\$18,000	\$1,000	5.88%

There is a \$1,000 increase in printing and reproduction costs in FY 2025 due to inflation.

25.0 Other Services

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$3,175,000	\$3,084,000	-\$91,000	-2.87%

A total of \$3,084,000 is requested for services in FY 2025. Requirements in this BOC fall into two basic categories: (i) interagency agreements for services provided by other Federal agencies and (ii) contractual services. Supplementary information on each category is provided in the following paragraphs.

Services Provided by Other Federal Agencies. A total of \$1,147,000 is requested for services provided by other Federal agencies. These services include \$755,000 for financial, travel, and procurement services provided by the Bureau of the Fiscal Service (BFS) in the Department of the Treasury; and \$250,000 for personnel and payroll services provided by the Interior Business Center (IBC) in the Department of the Interior. The remaining funds will be used for other interagency agreements with Federal Occupational Health for investigator physical examinations and respirator fit testing, incident notification services provided by the United States Coast Guard’s National Response Center (NRC), HSPD-12 compliance, Employee Assistance Program (EAP) support and other government-provided services.

Other Contractual Services. The CSB procures a variety of services to support its mission, including expert consultants for investigations and testing (\$791,000), support for safety animation and video production (\$275,000), training (\$75,000), and information technology software maintenance (\$200,000).

26.0 Supplies and Materials

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$254,000	\$275,000	\$21,000	8.27%

The amount of \$275,000 is requested for supplies and materials in FY 2025, which includes, books, reference materials, and subscriptions (\$199,000), general office and computer supplies (\$26,000), field safety supplies (\$15,000), and outreach materials (\$35,000).

31.0 Equipment

Change FY 2024-FY 2025

<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%</u>
\$50,000	\$101,000	\$51,000	102.00%

The increase in equipment for FY 2025 is due to necessary Information Technology infrastructure upgrades for the agency.

V. Additional Tables

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Appropriations by Fiscal Years

(Dollars in Millions)

Salaries & Expenses

Fiscal Year	One-Year Funds	Two-Year Funds	Total Funds
1999	6.50	0.00	6.50
2000	7.97	0.00	7.97
2001	4.99	2.49	7.48
2002	5.34	2.50	7.84
2003	7.31	0.50	7.81
2004	8.20	0.00	8.20
2005	9.03	0.00	9.03
2006	9.06	0.00	9.06
2007	9.11	0.00	9.11
2008	9.26	0.00	9.26
2009	10.20	0.00	10.20
2010	11.15	0.00	11.15
2011	10.78	0.00	10.78
2012	11.13	0.00	11.13
2013	11.20	0.00	11.20
2014	11.00	0.00	11.00
2015	11.00	0.00	11.00
2016	11.00	0.00	11.00
2017	11.00	0.00	11.00
2018	11.00	0.00	11.00
2019	12.00	0.00	12.00
2020	12.00	0.00	12.00
2021	12.00	0.00	12.00
2022	13.40	0.00	13.40
2023	14.40	0.00	14.40
2024 ^a	14.40	0.00	14.40
2025	00.00	17.40	17.40

^a [H.R.4366 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024](#)

Emergency Fund ^b

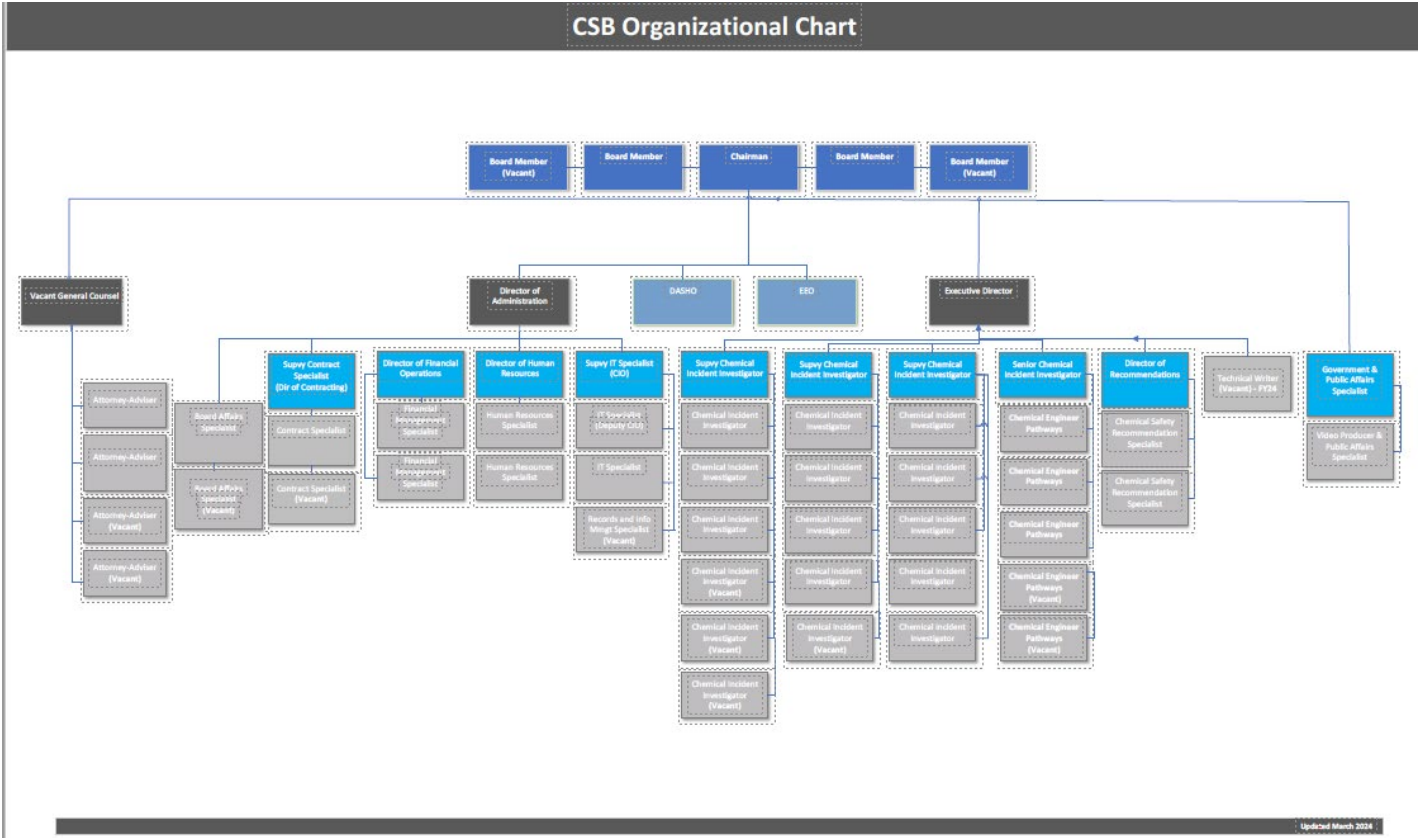
Fiscal Year	New Funding	Amount Spent to Date	Total Available
2004	\$0.44	\$0.00	\$0.44
2005	\$0.40	\$0.00	\$0.84

b. The Emergency Fund was established in FY 2004. It provides a funding mechanism so periodic incident investigation cost fluctuation can be met without delaying critical phases of the investigations. It is no-year funding, meaning it is available until expended.

**CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD
Personnel Data**

Grade	On Board 9/30/2021	On Board 9/30/2022	On Board 9/30/2023	Projected FY 2024	Requested FY 2025
GS-7	0	0	0	0	0
GS-9	0	0	0	3	2
GS-11	1	10	1	0	4
GS-12	1	2	2	5	0
GS-13	5	4	7	9	9
GS-14	11	13	16	19	26
GS-15	7	7	9	10	10
Executive	1	2	3	5	5
SES	3		1	1	2
Totals	29	30	39	52	58

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD Organization Chart



CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Recommended Appropriations Language

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in carrying out activities pursuant to section 112(r)(6) of the Clean Air Act, including the hire of passenger vehicles, uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902, the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376, \$17,400,000 to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the individual appointed to the position of Inspector General of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall, by virtue of such appointment, also hold the position of Inspector General of the Board: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Inspector General of the Board shall utilize personnel of the Office of Inspector General of EPA in performing the duties of the Inspector General of the Board, and shall not appoint any individuals to positions within the Board.