ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is assessing its workforce with the objective of eliminating many non-core functions. Unfortunately, the Corps will not meet the President’s goal for public-private competitions until 2008. Although the Corps is on track to produce audited financial statements, it needs to improve its management of information technology projects and the quality of its performance measurement.

President’s Management Agenda

Human Capital

The Corps is rated green for progress because the agency’s top leadership has recognized the need to focus efforts in this area on improving the capability of the Corps in skills needed to accomplish its core mission. The Corps will use recruitment tools – like a website advertising Corps employment opportunities – to address impending employee departures.

Competitive Sourcing

The current Corps plan indicates it does not intend to meet the 50 percent competitive sourcing goal but suggests it will compete 37 percent by 2008. The current plan should expand the number of positions that would be subject to competition.

Financial Performance

The Corps did not receive a clean audit opinion for 2001. It now is actively working with the DOD OIG to resolve problem issues, including confirming the construction-in-progress balances, which would allow for a clean audit opinion for 2003.

Expanding E-Government

The Corps lacks an IT modernization blueprint. The Corps is developing a blueprint and sound business cases for its major IT investments.

Budget and Performance Integration

The Corps has not developed acceptable performance data for its program evaluations. It is working with OMB to identify suitable performance measures, as a first step toward collecting the outcome-based data needed to inform budget decisions.

Program Assessments

Five PART analyses covering programs were completed that account for over 50 percent of the Corps budget. While program management generally is effective, the Corps needs to improve the long-term and short-term measures for many of its programs.