

FY 2010 Appropriations for National Security Space Programs

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Consideration of the FY 2010 defense budget was completed in mid-December 2009. House and Senate approval of the conference report for H.R. 3326 was secured on December 16 and 19 respectively. President Obama signed the bill on December 19. The Congress made a few notable changes to the President's budget request for national security space program and called for several policy changes.¹

A most significant policy change is the creation of a Major Force Program for Space.² In coming years, budgeting, planning, and program activity for national security space activities is expected to become more transparent and accessible. The objectives of DOD space activities will be enunciated as will resources and activities associated with the pursuit of those objectives.

The Congress also called for a report on a 15-year Space Investment Strategy. The House originally called for a 30-year timeframe. The Defense Department is to submit an unclassified report with a classified annex to the Congress by May 1, 2010 outlining estimates of the funding required to sustain U.S. space programs and the industrial base.³

The Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV) program saw considerable attention. The President requested \$1.3 billion for procurement of EELV systems in the Air Force budget, along with an additional \$26 million in R&D. The Congress cut \$193 million from the President's request on the initiative of the House because delays in launch activity for GPS II-F8 and the availability of an alternative launcher for a planned mission.⁴

Additionally, the Congress expressed concern "that the Air Force has not established a robust process for managing content on the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV) Launch Capabilities contract."⁵ The bill directs the Secretary of the Air Force "to establish a formal systems engineering process which includes the National Reconnaissance Office ... in order to prioritize and manage all efforts encompassed by the EELV Launch Capabilities contract." The Secretary also is directed to "to submit an Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle sustainment plan" with FY 2011 defense budget.⁶ Finally, \$20 million is provided "to study options and begin research and development to achieve a common upper stage between the Atlas and Delta launch vehicle families."⁷

Concerns about the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS) program led the Congress to allow only 50 percent of the appropriated funds for the program to be released until the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) certifies that the "program is being executed in support of the requirements, timelines and acquisition policies needed to meet Department of Defense missions."⁸ The legislation provides \$396 million for the program.

The Congress also directed the Director of the Operationally Responsive Space program office "to provide the congressional defense committees with independent

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FY 2010 Defense Appropriations for National Security Space Programs (Thousands of Dollars)

Budget Acct	Program Description	Budget Request	House	Senate	Final Appropriation	Change, Final Approp v. Budget Request	Explanation
Air Force Procurement	Advanced EHF	\$1,843,475	\$1,843,475	\$1,843,475	\$1,843,475	\$0	
	Wideband Gapfiller Satellites	\$201,671	\$626,671	\$151,671	\$151,671	-\$50,000	Program delay
	Wideband Gapfiller Satellites (AP-CY)	\$62,380	\$62,380	\$62,380	\$62,380	\$0	
	Spaceborne Equip (COMSEC)	\$9,871	\$9,871	\$9,871	\$9,871	\$0	
	Global Positioning (Space)	\$53,140	\$53,140	\$53,140	\$53,140	\$0	
	Def Meteorological Sat Prog (Space)	\$97,764	\$97,764	\$97,764	\$97,764	\$0	
	Evolved Expendable Launch Veh (Space)	\$1,295,325	\$1,351,015	\$1,189,925	\$1,102,125	-\$193,200	Reduction for AFSPC-4/ GPS IIF-8 boosters
	SBIR High (Space) (AP-CY)	\$307,456	\$307,456	\$307,456	\$307,456	\$0	
	SBIR High (Space)	\$159,000	\$159,000	\$159,000	\$159,000	\$0	
	Natl Polar-Orbiting Op Env Satellite	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$0	
	Defense Space Recon Program	\$105,152	\$105,152	\$105,152	\$105,152	\$0	
	Space Based IR Sensor Prog Space	\$34,440	\$34,440	\$2,000	\$2,000	-\$32,440	Premature Request
	NAVSTAR GPS Space	\$6,415	\$6,415	\$6,415	\$6,415	\$0	
	NUDET Detection SYS (NDS) Space	\$15,436	\$15,436	\$15,436	\$15,436	\$0	
	AF Satellite Control Network Space	\$58,865	\$58,865	\$58,865	\$58,865	\$0	
	Spacelift Range System Space	\$100,275	\$100,275	\$100,275	\$100,275	\$0	
	MILSATCOM Space	\$110,575	\$110,575	\$108,075	\$108,075	-\$2,500	Funding Ahead of Need
	Space MODS Space	\$30,594	\$30,594	\$30,594	\$30,594	\$0	
Counterspace System	\$29,793	\$29,793	\$29,793	\$29,793	\$0		
Air Force RDT&E	Space Technology	\$104,148	\$116,248	\$110,148	\$119,628	\$15,480	
	Advanced Spacecraft Technology	\$83,909	\$98,609	\$90,409	\$99,269	\$15,360	
	Maui Space Surveillance System (MSSS)	\$5,813	\$5,813	\$37,813	\$36,813	\$31,000	
	Advanced EHF MILSATCOM (Space)	\$464,335	\$464,335	\$464,335	\$464,335	\$0	
	Polar MILSATCOM (Space)	\$253,150	\$253,150	\$253,150	\$253,150	\$0	
	Space Control Technology	\$27,252	\$27,252	\$29,252	\$28,852	\$1,600	
	International Space Cooperative R&D	\$632	\$632	\$632	\$632	\$0	
	Wideband Gapfiller System RDT&E (Space)	\$70,956	\$70,956	\$70,956	\$70,956	\$0	
	Operationally Responsive Space	\$112,861	\$114,361	\$125,881	\$125,211	\$12,350	
	National Polar-Orbiting Operational Environmental SAT	\$396,641	\$396,641	\$396,641	\$396,641	\$0	
	Next Generation MILSATCOM Technology Development	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	
	Counterspace Systems	\$64,248	\$64,248	\$64,248	\$64,248	\$0	
	Space Situation Awareness Systems	\$308,134	\$207,834	\$269,534	\$239,534	-\$68,600	
	Space Based Infrared System (SBIRS) High EMD	\$512,642	\$526,442	\$512,642	\$526,442	\$13,800	Transfer from 3GIRS
	Third Generation Infrared Surveillance	\$143,169	\$39,169	\$143,169	\$73,369	-\$69,800	
	Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle Program (Space)	\$26,545	\$51,545	\$26,545	\$46,545	\$20,000	
	Rocket Systems Launch Program (Space)	\$14,637	\$14,637	\$14,637	\$14,637	\$0	
	Space Test Program (STP)	\$47,215	\$47,215	\$47,215	\$47,215	\$0	
	MILSATCOM Terminals	\$257,693	\$257,693	\$257,693	\$257,693	\$0	
	Satellite Control Network (Space)	\$20,991	\$20,991	\$20,991	\$20,991	\$0	
	NAVSTAR Global Positioning System (User Equipment)	\$137,692	\$137,692	\$137,692	\$137,692	\$0	
	NAVSTAR Global Positioning System (Space and Control)	\$52,039	\$52,039	\$52,039	\$52,039	\$0	
	Space and Missile Test and Evaluation Center	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$0	
	Space Warfare Center	\$3,009	\$3,009	\$3,009	\$3,009	\$0	
	Spacelift Range System (Space)	\$9,957	\$9,957	\$9,957	\$9,957	\$0	
	GPS III Space Segment	\$815,095	\$717,695	\$425,695	\$425,695	-\$389,400	
	GPS Control Segment (OCX)	\$0	\$0	\$292,000	\$292,000	\$292,000	Transfer from GPS III Space Segment
	NUDET Detection System (Space)	\$84,021	\$84,021	\$84,021	\$84,021	\$0	
National Security Space Office	\$10,634	\$0	\$10,634	\$0	-\$10,634		
Space Situation Awareness Operations	\$54,648	\$54,648	\$54,648	\$54,648	\$0		
Defense- Wide R&D	Space Surveillance and Tracking System	\$180,000	\$160,000	\$173,200	\$162,500	-\$17,500	
		\$8,791,192	\$9,006,648	\$8,567,572	\$8,408,708	-\$382,484	

Source: Congressional Record, December 16, 2009

cost, schedule and performance estimates prior to initiating any satellite development activity.”⁹

The legislation modified the reporting structure for the National Security Space Office and requires the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) provide a roadmap outlining “how this office will be used in future space system architecture planning.”¹⁰ The President’s budget request transferred the program from the Air Force’s R&D budget to its O&M accounts. The Congress concurred with the shift.

Disagreement between the House and the Senate over the direction for the follow-on to the Space Based Infrared System is notable. The Senate fully supported the President’s request while the House sharply reduced support. The Third Generation Infrared Surveillance program was funded at \$73.4 million.

The table below summarizes elements of the national security space budget. It does not include classified programs nor procurement of space resources from the Army or Navy.

Notes

1. See James Mazol, *Considering the FY 2010 National Security Space Budget* (Marshall Institute, July 2009, <http://www.marshall.org/>

[article.php?id=720](#)) for discussion of the President’s Budget Request.

2. “Sec. 8099. The Secretary of Defense shall create a major force program category for space for the Future Years Defense Program of the Department of Defense. The Secretary of Defense shall designate an official in the Office of the Secretary of Defense to provide overall supervision of the preparation and justification of program recommendations and budget proposals to be included in such major force program category.”
3. *Congressional Record*, December 16, 2009: H15291; and Turner Brinton, “Defense Spending Act Pushes Smarter Investments in Space,” *Space News*, January 4, 2010: 4.
4. *Congressional Record*, December 16, 2009: H15198.
5. *Congressional Record*, December 16, 2009: H15199.
6. *Congressional Record*, December 16, 2009: H15291.
7. *Congressional Record*, December 16, 2009: H15291.
8. *Congressional Record*, December 16, 2009: H15291.
9. *Congressional Record*, December 16, 2009: H15291.
10. *Congressional Record*, December 16, 2009: H15105.