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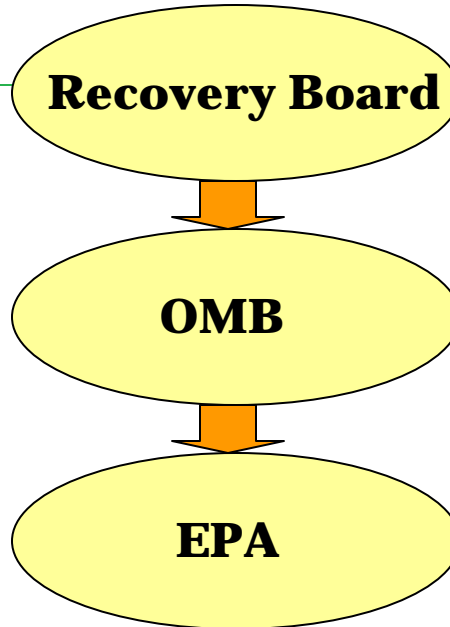
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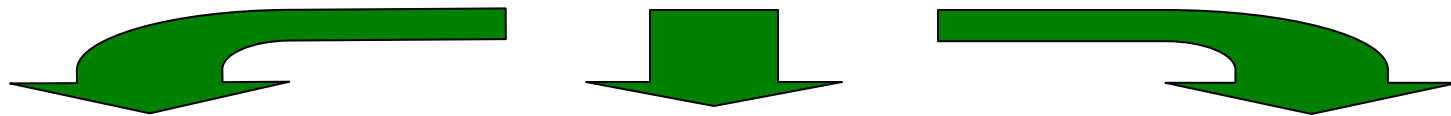
Implementing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

For Conference Purposes Only





Common Goals



Allocate funds quickly
Put our dollars to work immediately

Create jobs
Build critical infrastructure
Sustain communities
Enhance environmental quality

Transparency
Accountability
Progress
Real results



Ensuring ARRA Transparency

Recovery.gov and FederalReporting.gov

Michael Wood, Director
Recovery.gov

May 13, 2010

Board Information



THE RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD



BOARD MEMBERS



The Honorable J. Russell George

Following his nomination by President George W. Bush, the United States Senate confirmed J. Russell George in November 2004, as the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. Prior to assuming this role, Mr. George served as the Inspector General of the Corporation for National and Community Service, having been nominated to that position by President

[Read More about The Honorable J. Russell George](#)

Click on the pictures below to enlarge and see more information about each Board member.



The Honorable Earl E. Devaney
Chairman



The Honorable Richard L. Skinner
Vice Chairman



The Honorable Phyllis K. Fong



The Honorable Todd J. Zinser



The Honorable Gordon S. Heddel



The Honorable Gregory H. Friedman



The Honorable J. Russell George



The Honorable Daniel Levinson



The Honorable Glenn A. Fine



The Honorable Calvin L. Scovel III



The Honorable Eric M. Thorson



The Honorable Kathleen S. Tighe



Mary L. Kendall

Overview



- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act section 1526 established requirements for a Board web site to provide transparency.
- Among the Board’s duties is: “Establishing and maintaining a user-friendly, public-facing website to foster greater accountability and transparency in the use of covered funds...”

Overview



- Section 1512 of ARRA requires recipients of ARRA funds to file quarterly reports on award expenditures, and jobs created.
- Data sources award recipients, the Treasury, federal agencies, IGs.



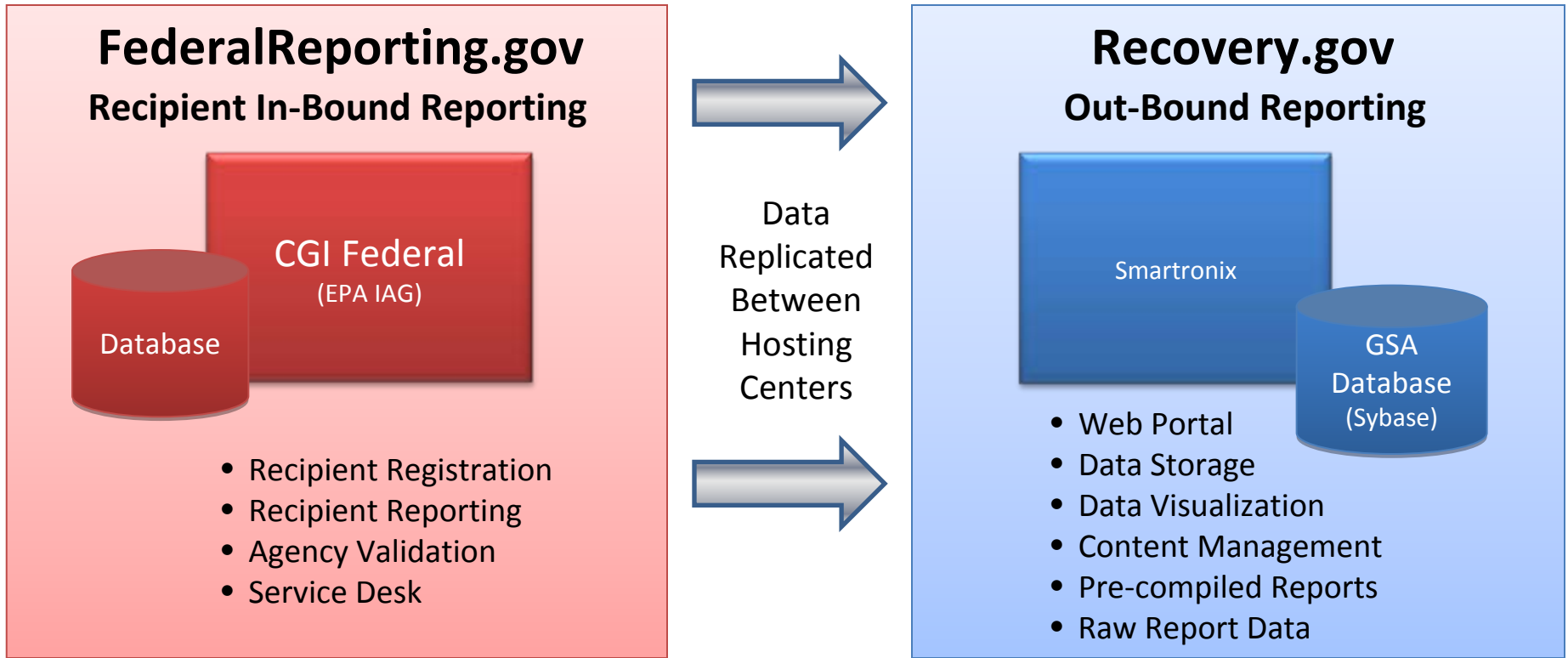
The Solutions

1. Simplify problems and remove impediments to success → focus on Recovery.gov
2. Select solutions that maximize probability of success under challenging deadlines
3. Manage acquisition process to fit deadlines
4. Rely on a high performing team from across numerous organizations
5. Make it simple and soon





Overall Conceptual Architecture



Our strategy employs a hybrid approach, leveraging expertise and services from both government and industry



Challenges

- Time frames
- Understanding transparency
- Scope & stakeholders
- Assumptions & myths
- Fundamentally different approach – financial reporting
- Data quality



Accountability Module

Initial Risk Assessment



Recovery Operations Center

All recipients are put through a risk model using variables that are constantly being monitored for relevancy.

Developing Platforms to Ensure Transparency

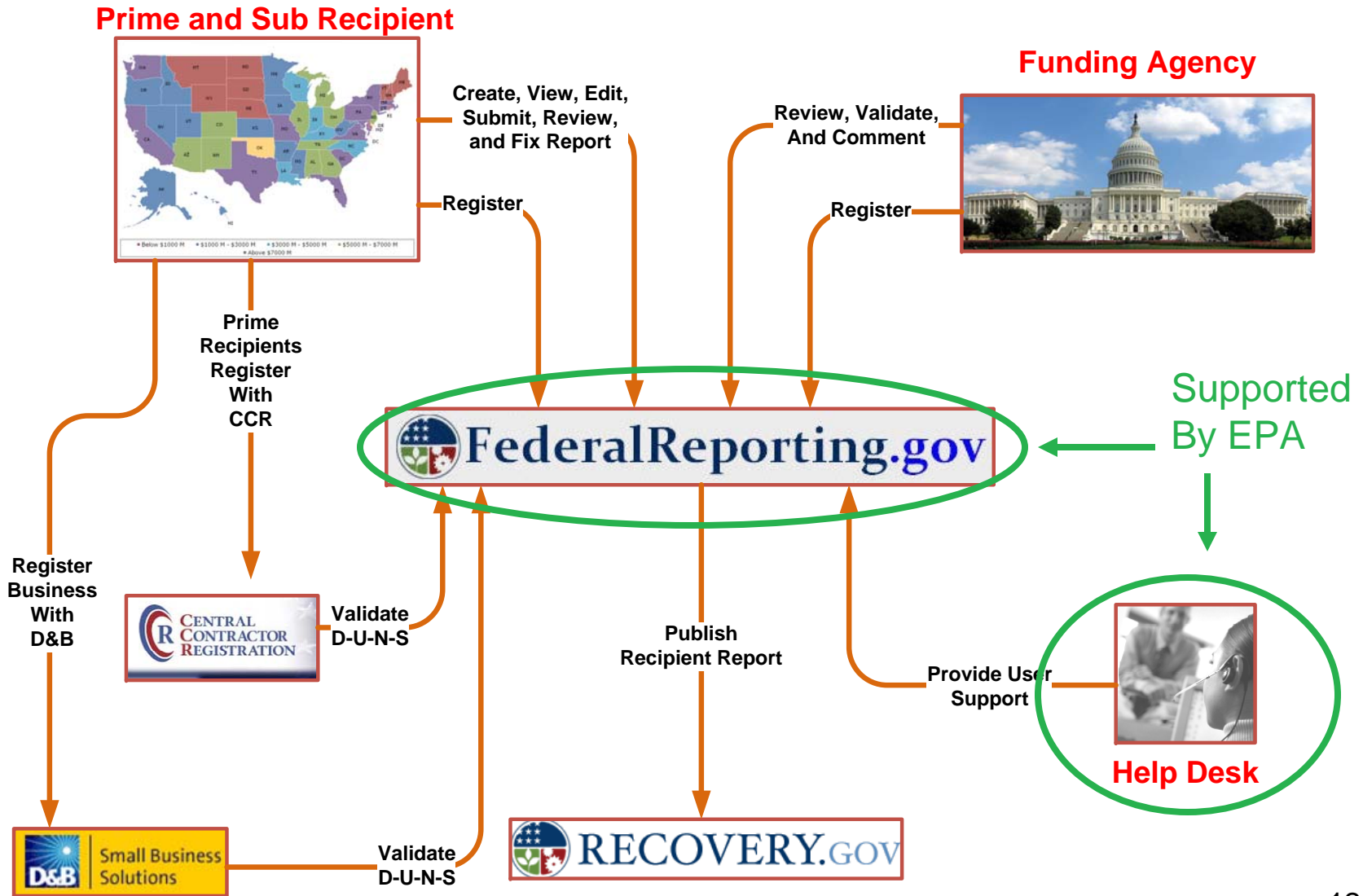


FederalReporting.Gov Role of Environmental Protection Agency

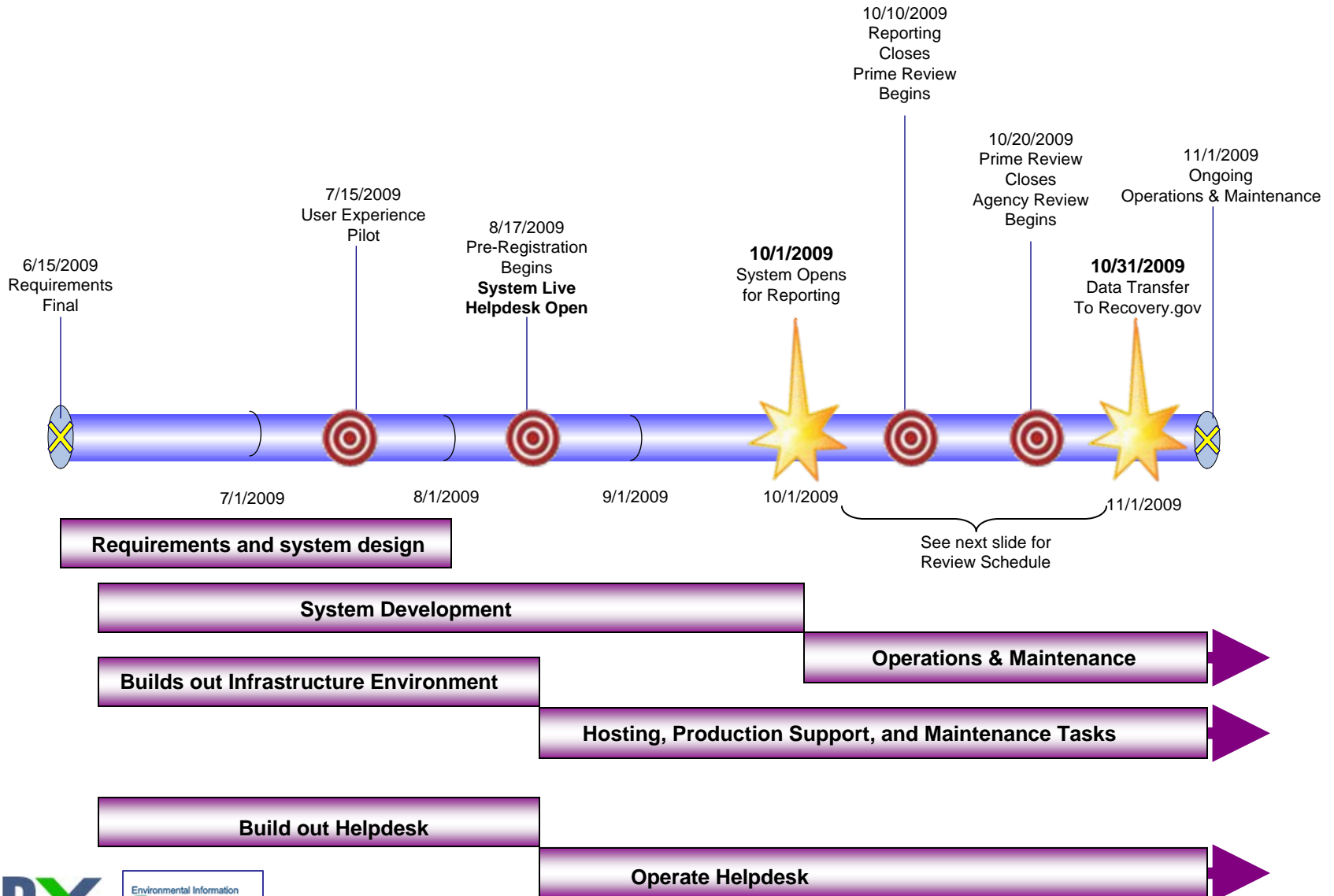
Connie Dwyer
Office of Information Collection, OEI



EPA Support and Collaboration Technical and Help Desk Components



Challenging Project Timeline

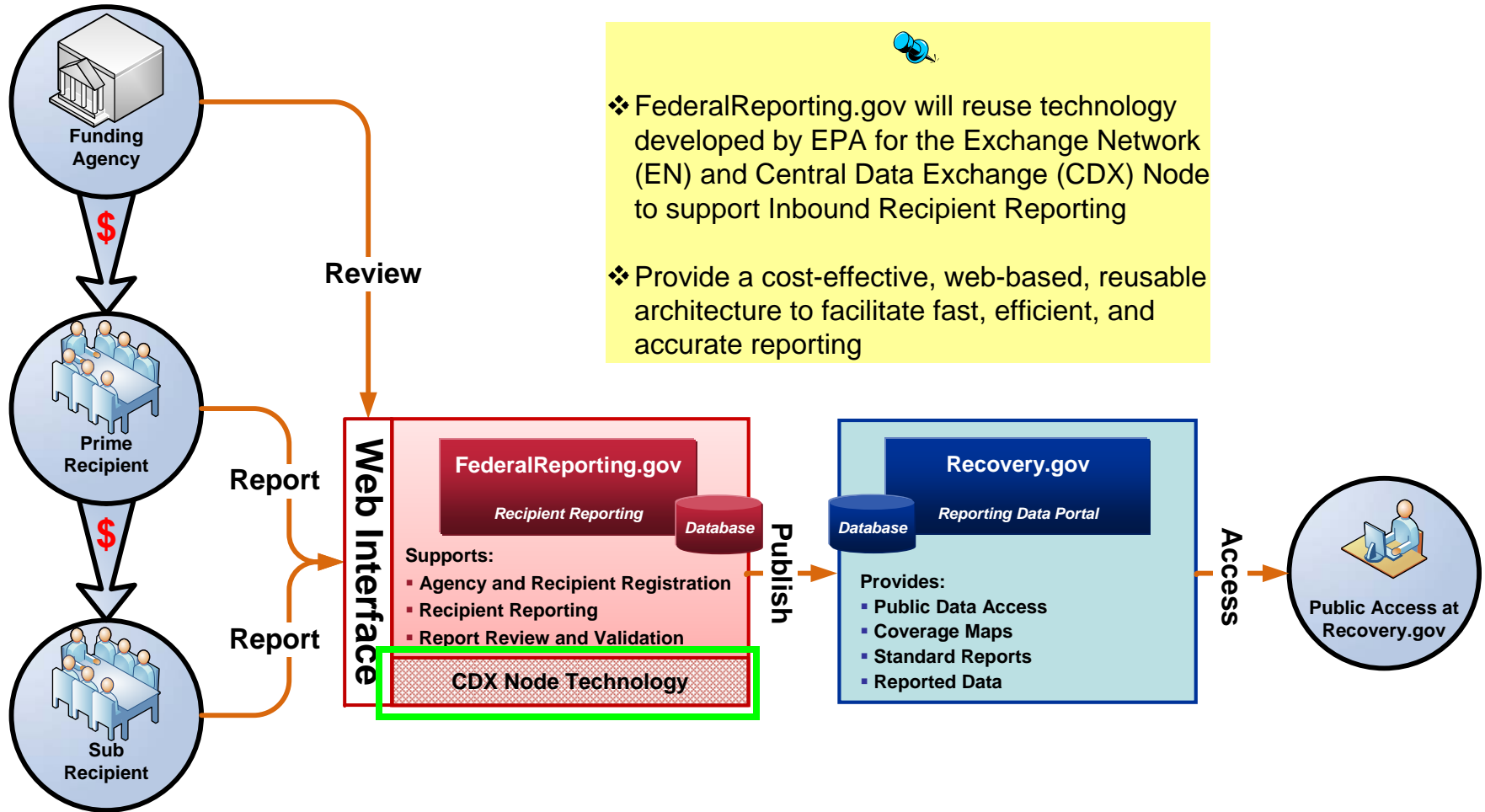


How EPA Got Involved

- Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board (Board) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) partnered with EPA to leverage:
 - Experience with rolling out nationwide data collection systems for multiple stakeholders
 - Proven Architecture of Central Data Exchange (CDX) solution
 - CDX Service Desk support
- Demonstrated benefits of CDX architecture being single point of entry for recipient reporting to FederalReporting.gov

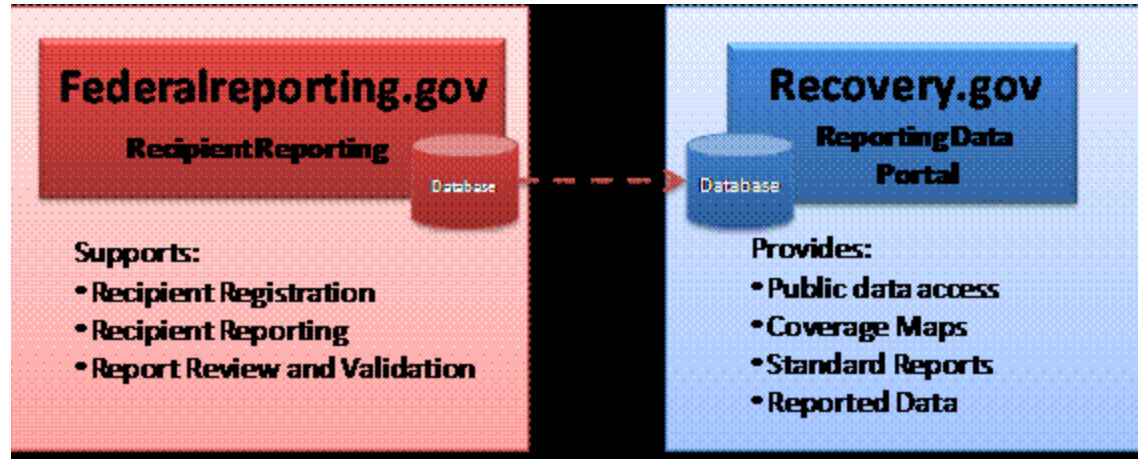
CDX Node Technology Leveraged for Recipient Reporting

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- ❖ FederalReporting.gov will reuse technology developed by EPA for the Exchange Network (EN) and Central Data Exchange (CDX) Node to support Inbound Recipient Reporting
- ❖ Provide a cost-effective, web-based, reusable architecture to facilitate fast, efficient, and accurate reporting

Project Scope



- ***FederalReporting.gov Application***
 - Supported by CGI Federal through the EPA CDX Contract
 - Design, build, implement, deploy, and maintain the Application
 - Hosted in CGI's Tier 3 Certified Datacenter located in Phoenix, AZ
- ***FederalReporting Helpdesk***
 - Supported by ITX, an 8a small business leveraging CGI's dedicated Helpdesk center in San Antonio, TX

EPA Role

Requirements and Design

- Initial use cases and process flows for major processes
- Stakeholder perspective on business policies and processes
- Pilot demonstration and user acceptance testing sessions
- Major EPA processes used in this solution:
 - Registration
 - User Administration
 - Report Submission
 - Report Reviewing
 - Report Data Transfer to Recovery.gov

Operations and Maintenance - Application and Help Desk

- Monitor progress and issues - weekly meetings with contractor and monthly status reports
- Ensure mitigation plans are established for known risks
- Participate in lessons learned sessions after each major release
- Contract and financial management

OMB Guidance and Direction

Jim Maras

Office of Management and Budget

OMB and Recovery Act

Section 1512

- Federal agencies, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall provide for user-friendly means for recipients of covered funds to meet the requirements of this section.
- **GUIDANCE**

OMB Guidance

- M-09-10 2/18/09
- M-09-16 4/7/09
- M-09-21 6/22/09
- FAR 9/30/09
- M-10-05 11/30/09
- M-10-14 3/22/10
- M-09-15 4/3/09
- M-09-18 5/11/09
- M-09-30 9/11/09
- M-10-03 10/13/09
- M-10-08 12/18/09

384 Pages and counting!

Transparency

- Recipient reports required by Section 1512 of the Recovery Act will answer important questions, such as:
 - Who is receiving Recovery Act dollars and in what amounts?
 - What projects or activities are being funded with Recovery Act dollars?
 - What is the completion status of such projects or activities and what impact have they had on job creation and retention?

Data Quality Process

- Data Quality Responsibility
 - Prime Recipients
 - Owns recipient and sub-recipient data
 - Sub-recipients
 - Owns sub-recipient data
 - Federal Agency
 - Provides advice/programmatic assistance
 - Performs limited data quality review
 - Oversight Authorities
 - Establish data quality expectations
 - Establish data and technical standards
 - Coordinate any centralized reviews

Basic Principles and Requirements

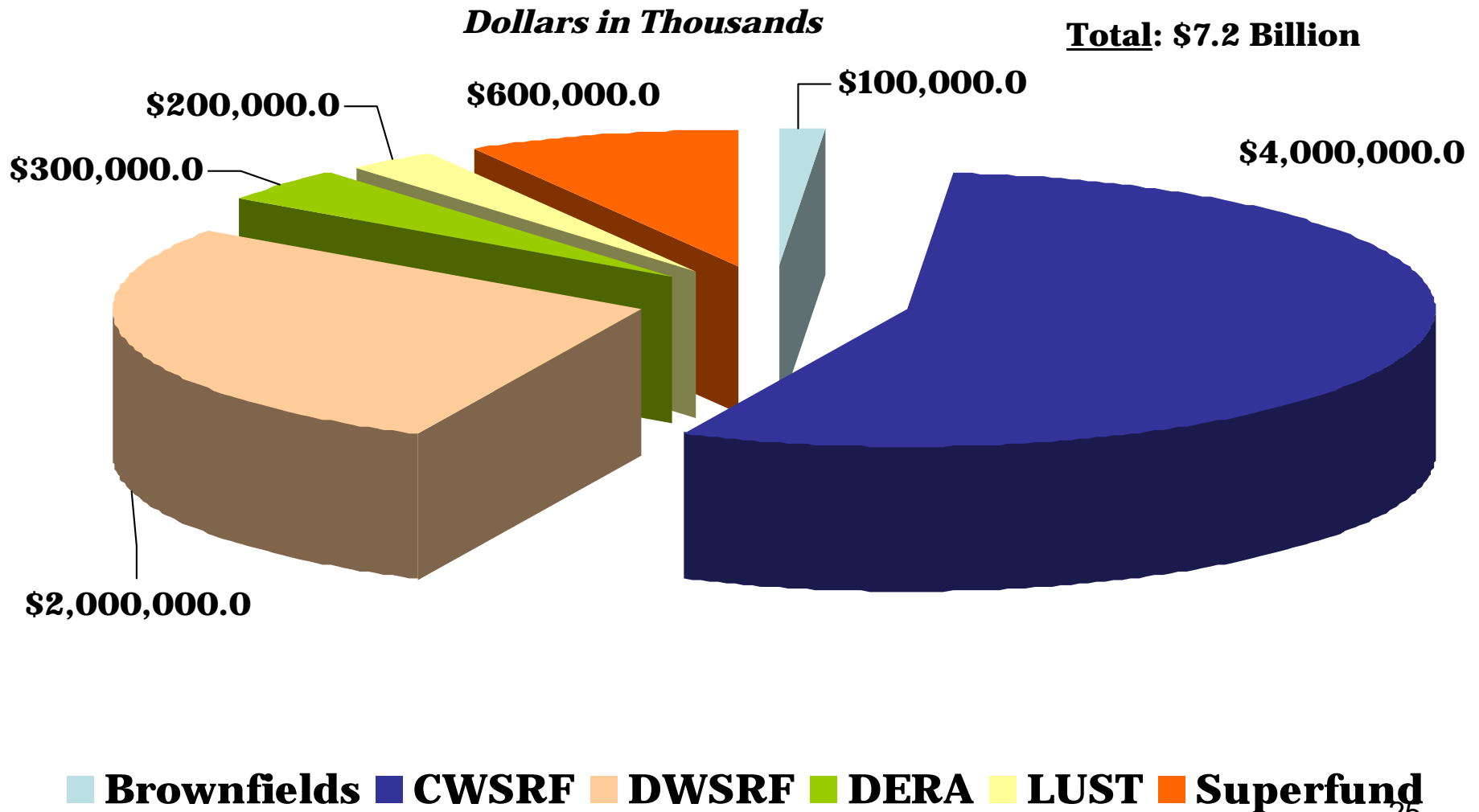
- **Additional Reporting Issues**
 - **Non-compliance** will be treated as a violation of the award agreement
 - Finally, all the information will be available to the public through www.Recovery.gov

EPA Implementation

Don Flattery, EPA Stimulus
Tracking and Reporting Coordinator



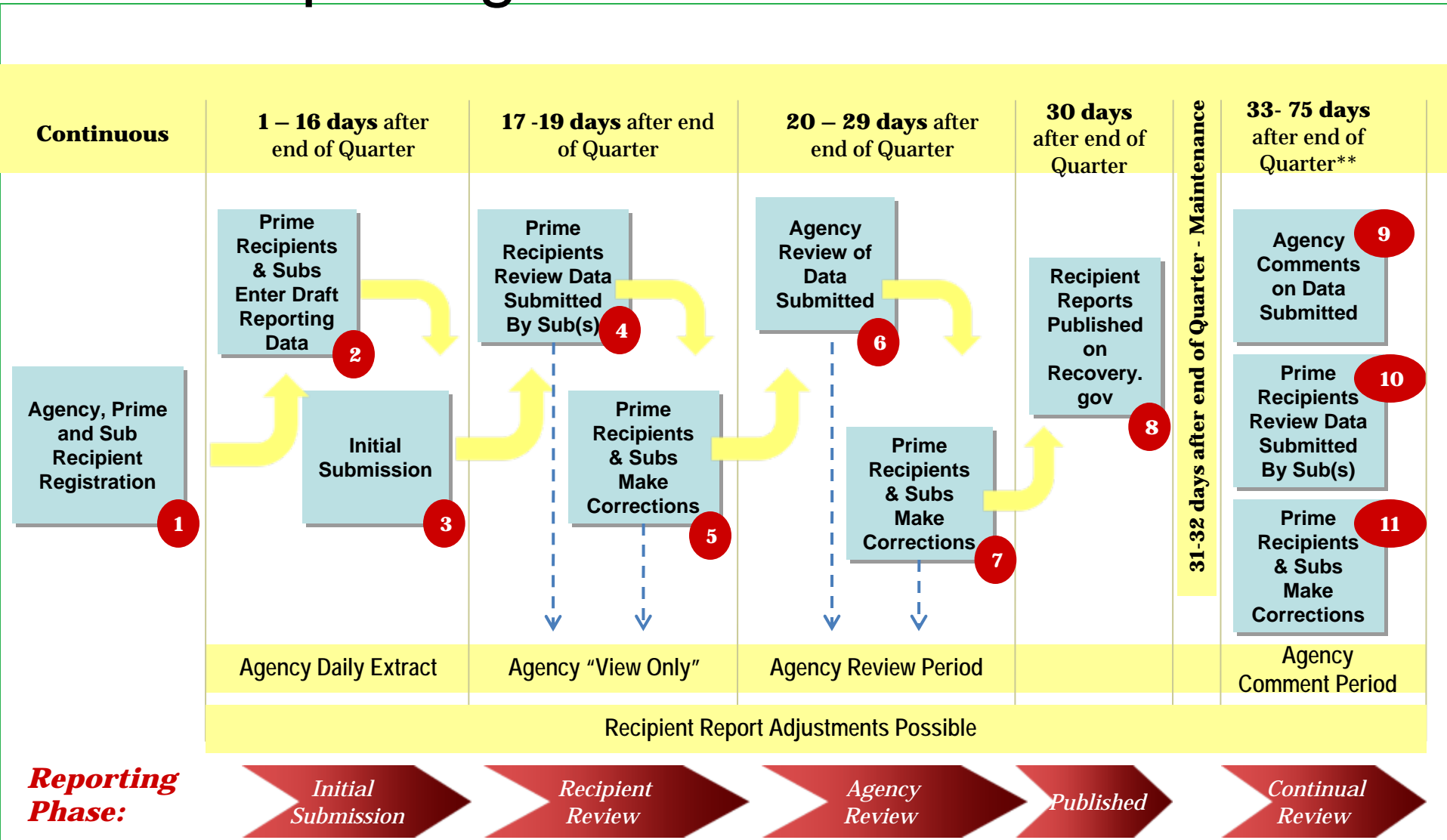
EPA's Stimulus Investments



EPA Section 1512 Data Quality Review

- Data Quality Responsibilities
 - Meet Federal Agency expectations (M-09 and M-10)
 - Provide advice/programmatic assistance
 - Perform limited data quality review
 - Focus on significant errors/material omissions
 - No standard approach recommended by OMB or RATB
 - EPA Standard Review Procedure defines data review
 - Conduct a “macro” review across full data extract of recipient reported data
 - Carry out local NPM-based data reviews
 - Tracking and Reporting subcommittee mgmt reports focus on jobs, expenditures and status

Reporting Timeline and Activities



Recipient Reported Data Issues – Potential Significant Errors/Material Omissions

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- Incorrect award IDs
- Significant differences in award amount
- Expenses > award amounts
- Significant expenditures – no jobs
- Project completion – little or no jobs
- Non reporting
 - In current quarter
 - Multiple non-reporter
- Data deficiencies which create a **“significant risk the public will be misled”**



"WE'VE SPENT ALL OF OUR STIMULUS
MONEY ON TRACKING OUR STIMULUS MONEY."