



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT

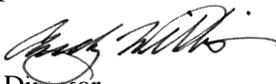
BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

ANDY WILLIS
STATE BUDGET DIRECTOR

March 17, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Department Heads and Chief Fiscal Officers
All State Departments, Institutions, and Agencies

FROM: Andy Willis 
State Budget Director

RE: Status of IBIS Project

I am writing to provide you an update on the Integrated Budget Information System (IBIS) project. I want to assure you that your issues with the fall deployment of the budget development forms and reports in IBIS have been heard, and we will be responsive in addressing them. My team has gathered many lessons learned from the initial release of IBIS, including much feedback provided by your budget staff.

OSBM is currently re-evaluating the IBIS project from top to bottom. We are undertaking a comprehensive review of the technical architecture to evaluate the existing design and determine what modifications are needed. We expect this architectural review to result in a substantial system redesign.

We are starting with the issue of data integrity. OSBM recognizes that the mismatch of data in forms, reports, and views was a major problem with the initial release and led to much confusion. We will make the necessary adjustments in IBIS to provide consistent display of data regardless of where in the system data are retrieved and viewed.

We are seeking to provide an improved user experience that is more in keeping with modern Web applications that we all use everyday. We expect to redesign the forms to ensure proper data validation. Adding features such as onscreen navigation aids, context sensitive help, and online documentation will make the application easier to use and reduce the need for complex manuals and numerous training sessions. The initial release of IBIS did not achieve a common look-and-feel or seamless integration of the various components; these shortcomings need to be corrected. Workflow needs to be re-evaluated. Additional reporting options and analytics are needed, along with access to more data.

My staff is currently working on re-scoping the entire project so that it is not driven by the budget cycle or external timelines. Modules will be released only when they are ready for use and have been thoroughly tested for reliability and performance. During the redesign, the current IBIS production system will be closed. Our legacy budget systems will continue to be available during this time. I will personally keep you posted as we work to make IBIS a viable system that meets our needs for reliable budgetary, management, and data services. If you have questions about the status of IBIS, please contact me at 919-807-4717.