



THIS MATTER IS NOT SCHEDULED FOR A BALLOT VOTE
A DECISIONAL MEETING FOR THIS MATTER IS SCHEDULED ON:
May 21, 2025

TO: The Commission
Alberta E. Mills, Secretary

DATE: April 30, 2025

THROUGH: Matthew A. Campbell, General Counsel

FROM: Brien Lorenze, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Operating Plan
Alignment and Midyear Review

The attached memorandum summarizes staff's recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Operating Plan Alignment and Midyear Review. A briefing on this matter is scheduled for May 7, 2025, with a decisional meeting scheduled for May 21, 2025.

Please indicate your vote on the following options:

- I. Approve FY 2025 Midyear Review, as drafted.

(Signature)

(Date)

- II. Approve FY 2025 Midyear Review, with the following specified changes.

(Signature)

(Date)



III. Do not approve FY 2025 Midyear Review.

(Signature)

(Date)

IV. Take other action specified below.

(Signature)

(Date)

Attachment: Executive Director's Memorandum: Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Operating Plan Alignment and Midyear Review



United States Consumer Product Safety Commission

April 30, 2025

TO: The Commission
THROUGH: Alberta E. Mills, Secretary
Matthew Campbell, General Counsel
FROM: Brien Lorenze, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Midyear Review

BRIEN
LORENZE

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LORENZE
Date: 2025.04.30 08:18:15
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OVERVIEW

This memorandum summarizes staff's recommendations for the FY 2025 Midyear Review. The recommendation proposes projects for allocation of potential unexecuted balances, subject to the availability of funds (SAF).

RECOMMENDATION: USE OF UNEXECUTED BALANCES

Unexecuted balances typically result from unplanned staffing variances, un-executable contract requirements, or actual obligations for specific projects that are less than the estimated budgeted amount. Staff have identified \$6.575 million in potential projects for funding consideration, which are listed in priority order based on assessment of agency needs. [Table 1](#) includes projects in priority order with cost estimates and [Table 2](#) reflects the project descriptions.

The actual amount of year-end unexecuted balances is not currently known, but is likely to be in the \$3.5 million range, which is below the \$6.575 million total of potential projects listed for Commission consideration and prioritization.

U.S. Consumer Product
Safety Commission
4330 East-West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814
[cpsc.gov](https://www.cpsc.gov)

National Product Testing
& Evaluation Center
5 Research Place
Rockville, MD 20850

Recommendation: Authorized Projects to Fund from Unexecuted Balances, SAF

Table 1. Proposed Projects

Rank	Org	Project	Amount (in \$000)
1	EXRR	NEISS Hospital Data Gap	\$2,000
2	EXRR	Lab Safety Operations	\$510
3	EXRR	Lab Equipment	\$120
4	EXIT	Cybersecurity Support	\$313
5	EXIT	CyberArk Upgrade	\$74
6	EXRR	ChatGPT Enterprise on MS Azure	\$120
7	EXFM	Audit Liaison Support	\$134
8	EXIT	ITDS/RAM Cloud Migration	\$500
9	EXC	Section 15 Reporting Portal Updates	\$96
10	EXRR	Strong Sensitizers Database	\$300
11	EXRR	Carbon Monoxide to Carboxyhemoglobin Tool	\$100
12	EXRR	Chemical Hazard Identification and Source Characterization AI/ML Framework and Case Studies	\$200
13	EXRR	Children's Product Population Study	\$400
14	OCM	CPSC.gov Web Content Managers	\$308
15	OCM	Digital Advertising	\$250
16	OCM	Baby Safety/Safe Sleep Campaign	\$125
17	OCM	Community Outreach/Grassroots	\$500
18	OCM	Older Adult Hazards Advertising Campaign	\$25
19	OCM	Outdoor Advertising	\$500
Total			\$6,575

Table 2. Project Descriptions

MY#	Project Title	Amount (in \$000)	Description
1	NEISS Hospital Data Gap	\$2,000	EXRR has a data gap due to CDC's budget reduction. With this funding shortfall in 2025, EXRR would need to decrease the number of hospitals it uses (77 to 50) resulting in a higher statistical variance for its work products. This funding could be used to fully replace the count of hospitals, or used to acquire alternative data for NEISS program purposes, e.g., data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and, or commercial Health Care Plans.
2	Lab Safety Operations	\$510	Funds needed to acquire/operate/maintain/repair capabilities necessary to support EXC/EXIS testing safely and standards development. Restores 5RP Battery Replacement to provide uninterrupted power for various safety equipment and exhaust fans for employee safety during testing. Also restores 5RP Lab HVAC equipment installed 15 years ago but has degraded over time.
3	Lab Equipment	\$120	Funds safety/testing equipment upgrades/ replacements; replacement of consumable vials and glassware; replacement of force gauges, load cells and power bank; PSSA lab tank maintenance/repair and water replacement; and ATV test support/training vehicle replacements.
4	Cybersecurity Support	\$313	Funds cybersecurity analysis services to support the IT security program to support the IT security program by implementing audit corrective actions, increasing incident response demands, security monitoring, data loss prevention, and cloud-based security requirements. It would also strengthen CPSC's Incident Response and Vulnerability Management (VM) program to mature CPSC's efforts with logging capabilities required by OMB M-21-31.
5	CyberArk Upgrade	\$74	Funds an upgrade to CyberArk version 14. The upgrade investment ensures continued security, vendor support, and alignment with federal cybersecurity standards. Without the upgrade, systems may become more susceptible to cyber threats, potentially jeopardizing data integrity and operational stability.
6	ChatGPT Enterprise on MS Azure	\$120	Implements a ChatGPT program that operates within CPSC's Microsoft Azure environment. Operating on secure Azure infrastructure allows ChatGPT to safely/securely accept queries and documents sensitive/confidential nature. Azure environment ensures compliance with internal policies and other government regulations. It also enables CPSC to enhance internal efficiency, improve access to technical knowledge, and support data-driven agency-wide decision-making.

MY#	Project Title	Amount (in \$000)	Description
7	Audit Liaison Support	\$134	Provides continued audit liaison support services for EXFM to effectively and efficiently assist with the FY 2025 Financial Statement Audit (FSA). Continued services provides support for FSA walkthroughs with the audit firm; prepare, review and submit audit documentation; draft position papers; finalize the automated workflow process to manage audit requests; and concurrently address continued remediation, and corrective action plans from the prior year.
8	ITDS/RAM Cloud Migration	\$500	Funds ITDS/RAM Cloud Migration to scale IT resources with cloud computing for increased filing data due to new efilg requirements. Without funding, RAM will remain on-premises, risking inability to support the expected rise in computing demand from the efilg pilot.
9	Section 15 Reporting Portal Updates	\$96	Funds updates to the Section 15 Reporting Portal and creates the following efficiencies for EXC's Enforcement and Litigation and Regulatory Enforcement Divisions: Manual data entry, which include <u>a.</u>) Eliminate FTE time spent ingesting report data and manual data entry into CMS (estimated time savings is 780 FTE hours/year); <u>b.</u>) Elimination of affirmative full report requests which will require firms to submit more comprehensive reporting information eliminating the need to prepare full report requests outside the portal (estimated time savings is 416 FTE hours/year); <u>c.</u>) Reduction of investigative steps to identify precise regulatory violations: the enhanced regulatory option trees will allow filers to list multiple violations and more detailed violation types reducing time spent investigating/identifying the full scope of regulatory violations (estimated time savings: 228 FTE hours/year).
10	Strong Sensitizers Database	\$300	Funds a list curation of several hundred sensitizers and several dozen strong sensitizers prioritized from a list of several thousand chemical substances. CPSC staff will compile strong sensitizer evidence for these prioritized substances in an easy-to-use database that can be used to support compliance for consumer products that contain sensitizing substances. Several recent recalls have been issued for products that caused sensitization (allergenic reaction) after use; however, CPSC's official strong sensitizer list has not been updated for several decades.
11	Carbon Monoxide to Carboxyhemoglobin Tool	\$100	Funds a tool that incorporates population variability into the Coburn-Forster-Kane equation (CFK), which is widely used to estimate carboxyhemoglobin (COHB) levels from carbon monoxide (CO) air concentrations. A tool that incorporates population variability based on expected variation in physiological parameters does not yet exist. Due to population-level variability, a range of COHB levels can be expected for a single CO air concentration; however, this tool would provide useful information for ongoing projections.

MY#	Project Title	Amount (in \$000)	Description
12	Chemical Hazard Identification and Source Characterization AI/ML Framework and Case Studies	\$200	Funds the use of AI and machine learning approaches in chemical hazard identification and also make predictions about similar chemical hazard patterns. CPSC staff have identified a novel approach to combine existing databases with chemical property information, chemical use information, and human health hazard information with AI and machine learning. This approach uses existing free, accessible, interoperable, and reusable (FAIR) tools, integrated with the R statistical program to combine both known and predicted information on human health chemical hazard patterns from consumer products, which will also be applied to case studies.
13	Children's Product Population Study	\$400	This effort would inform risk assessments for children's products and the development of an associated dashboard containing sales estimates for each product category, the methodology and data sources used to generate this estimate, and the historical and short-term prospective growth rates for each product type.
14	CPSC.gov Web Content Managers	\$308	Maintains funding for two web content managers that have been on contract for the past three years. The CPSC.gov O&M funding was reduced in FY 2025 by \$308K. Since 2020, staff demand for website content updates and enhancements has grown exponentially, and most updates are at their highest rate ever.
15	Digital Advertising	\$250	Funds digital advertising, which is the most effective tool CPSC employs to deliver our life-saving safety information. Digital advertising guarantees that CPSC's safety messages reach the people who need them most and at highly relevant times throughout the year. Digital advertising also provides OCM with concrete data and metrics to determine success. The metrics are used to make real-time distribution decisions to ensure we are maximizing our advertising investments.
16	Baby Safety/Safe Sleep Campaign	\$125	Funds the information and education campaign for Baby Safety/Safe Sleep to raise awareness about nursery product hazards and recalls in order to drive behavior change to support a meaningful reduction in sleep-related and juvenile product infant deaths. Outreach will include targeted distribution of content such as social media posts, infographics, video PSAs and paid advertising.

MY#	Project Title	Amount (in \$000)	Description
17	Community Outreach/Grassroots	\$500	Funds grassroots outreach efforts by OCM and CPSC field staff with local community touchpoints in their assigned regions. Grassroots support for field staff would include OCM on-the-ground support for outreach events and enhancing CPSC's existing state-specific product safety resources so they can better foster relationships with organizations that consumers trust. OCM also proposes creating an internal-facing digital "learning center" for field staff so they can more easily access CPSC's latest education information and resources.
18	Older Adult Hazards	\$25	Funds a series of videos to share with State Attorney Generals, hospitals, caregiving facilities, other federal agencies, media and the public at large to promote awareness and education on safety pertaining to our senior population as well as supporting a digital campaign to target safety messaging.
19	Outdoor Advertising	\$500	Funds either a broad outdoor advertising campaign in major media markets or smaller outdoor advertising campaigns across markets of various sizes. This effort may be combined with other information and education campaigns to enhance the reach of either one specific campaign or the reach of multiple campaigns.