

COSTS

The proposed LIS monitoring program builds upon existing Federal, regional, State and local monitoring programs. It avoids duplication of those efforts and concentrates on adding only those observations, modelling and data/ information management activities needed to address the priority questions. In spite of this, the required incremental costs are not trivial. A first order estimate of these costs is presented in Exhibit D. The additional costs are estimated at about \$1 million per year. To put this figure in perspective, the Long Island Sound Study's report Environmental Monitoring of Long Island Sound - Program Inventory (1993) estimates the cost of current local, state, and federal monitoring at over \$3.5 million per year. This includes 1) monitoring to protect public health such as bathing beach programs and shellfish certification programs; 2) compliance monitoring such as point source surveillance; and 3) routine environmental monitoring.

The value of Long Island Sound to the region from boating, fishing, swimming and beach going has been estimated at more than \$5 billion per year. The potential capital costs of remediation of LIS range from \$6 to \$8 billion. The water quality improvements benefits of this large reinvestment will be fairly long-term (at least 5 years) and will be fairly modest. The biological and ecological benefits from these modest changes in water quality may be much larger. All changes as a result of management actions will be superimposed upon a very noisy signal -- a highly natural variable system -- and may be difficult to detect. A level of patience and constancy of commitment will be required.

EXHIBIT B

Incremental Annual Costs For Creating And Sustaining The Minimalist LIS Monitoring Program

Eutrophication/Hypoxia	\$ 300,000
Contaminants	315,000
Living Marine Resources	150,000
Non-Point Sources	50,000
Pathogens	10,000
Modelling	100,000
Data/Information Management	100,000
	\$1,025,000