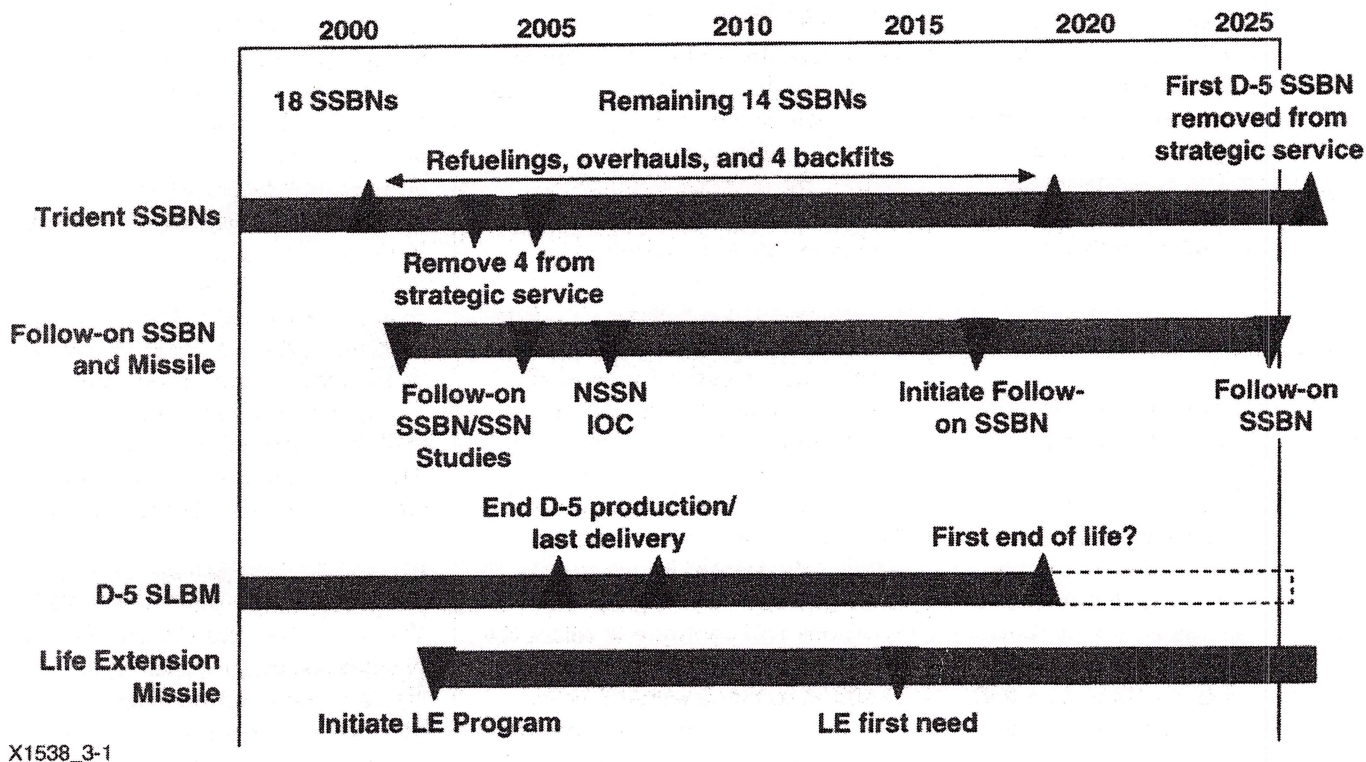


Trident III

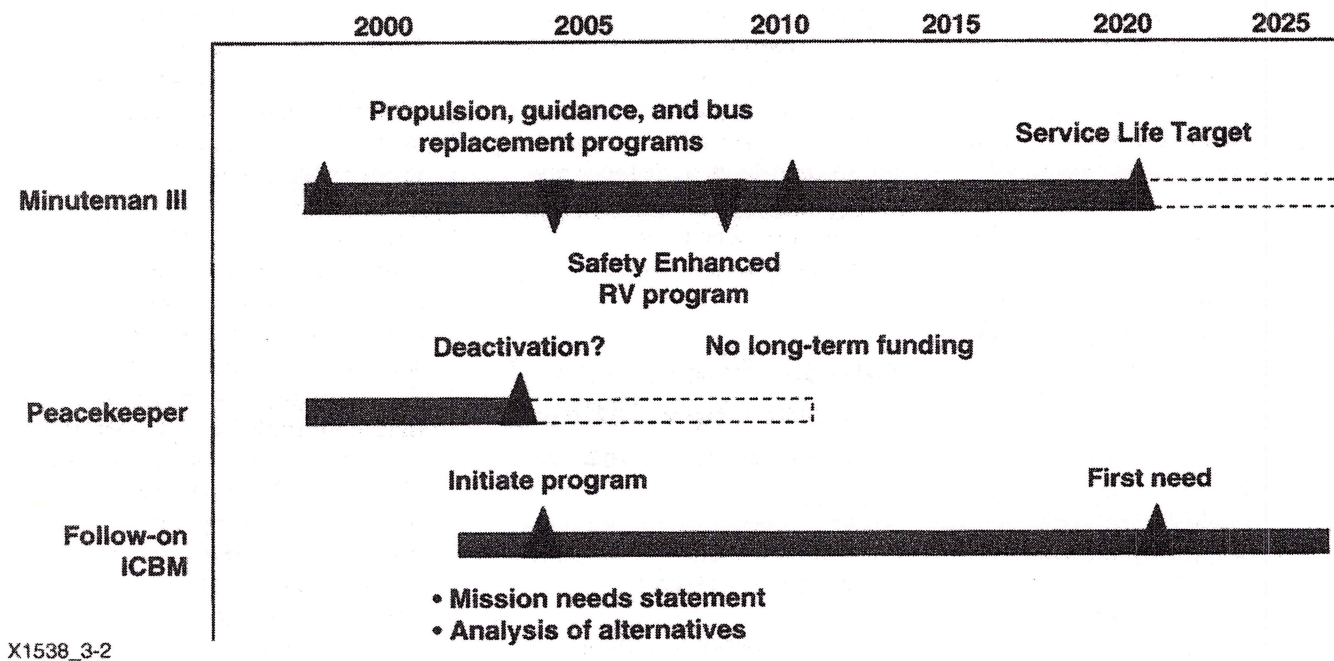
Methodology + Export Analysis,

Trident II + Trident III Reliability Plans



X1538_3-1

Figure 3-1. Planning for naval strategic systems, 2000–2025.



X1538_3-2

Figure 3-2. Planning for land-based strategic systems, 2000–2025.

Follow on SSBN: DOD envisages a need to deploy the next generation SSBN in about 2029, when the first of the remaining operational Trident SSBNs will retire. The Navy is currently studying two options: a variant of the Virginia class SSN or a dedicated SSBN. The Navy has begun studies of a new SLBM to arm the new SSBN for deployment by 2029. (NPR)

"Follow on SLBM. A new SLBM would be needed in about 2029 to match the schedule for a follow on SSBN. The Navy has begun studies to examine range payload requirements and missile size, but no specific plans for a follow on SLBM at this point other than extending the service life of the Trident D 5." (NPR p. 42)

Mr. Hancock: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence what is the forecast hull life of the (a) Astute and (b) Vanguard class of submarines. [65738]

Mr. Spellar: On current plans, both classes have an estimated hull life of 25 years.

(20 Jan 99)