

MEMORANDUM FOR Daniel R. Lehman, Director
Construction Management Support Division

FROM: N. Anne Davies
Associate Director for Fusion Energy Sciences

SUBJECT: Review of the National Compact Stellarator Experiment
(NCSX) at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL)

I would like to request that your office organize and lead an Office of Science (SC) review of the NCSX project.

The purpose of this review is for SC to conduct an independent project review to assess the overall cost, schedule, management, and readiness of the NCSX project for Critical Decision 3 (CD-3), Approve Start of Construction.

The review shall be conducted on June 8-9, 2004, at PPPL. Given the stage of the project, the review committee is requested to respond to the following questions:

1. Is the design, particularly the modular coil winding forms and the vacuum vessel, complete and likely to meet performance requirements? Are the modular coil winding forms and vacuum vessel ready for procurement? Are there credible plans for resolving any remaining technical issues?
2. Are the project cost and schedule, including contingency, credible and reasonable? Are there reasonable plans and adequate resources available to support the planned NCSX work?
3. Are management plans adequate? Are project control processes, including change control systems, in place and functioning adequately?
4. Is the project ready to proceed to CD-3, Approve Start of Construction?

Gene Nardella, NCSX program manager, will work closely with you as necessary to plan and carry out this review. I would appreciate receiving your Committee's report within 45 days of the conclusion of the review. This review will play an important role in ensuring that the NCSX project can be completed on cost and schedule. Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Gene at 3-4956.

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