

January 30, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: Ron Lutha, DOE Fermi Area Office

FROM: Greg Pitonak, DOE Princeton Area Office

SUBJECT: Request to Conduct a Review of the Project Control System (PCS) for the National Compact Stellarator Project (NCSX) at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL)

Thank you for agreeing to conduct a review of the Project Control System for the National Compact Stellarator Experiment, a \$73.5M innovative concept fusion experiment which is planned as a new start project for DOE in FY2003. While PPPL is the lead DOE laboratory for the project, a significant portion of the design work is being done by Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The project completed a Conceptual Design Review last summer, and CD-1 was approved in November, 2002.

Specifically, we ask that the Review address the following items:

1. Does PPPL's proposed Project Control System meet current DOE Earned Value Management System assessment and reporting requirements ?
Specifically:
 - a. Are the planned reporting format and frequency adequate considering project size, complexity, and risk ?
 - b. Does the system produce timely and accurate reports in a readable and meaningful format ?
 - c. Is the system flexible enough to adapt to changes without extensive modification ?

2. Is the Project Control System management structure adequate and appropriate for guiding the proposed project through to completion, considering the joint responsibilities of PPPL & ORNL ? Are the PPPL and ORNL roles and responsibilities for PCS reporting clearly documented and understood ?

I look forward to the review on February 27, 2003 and receiving your letter report by early March, 2003. We appreciate your assistance in this matter. Please contact me if there are any questions at 609-243-3713.

Greg Pitonak
DOE Project Manager for NCSX

cc:
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