

DOE-NCSX Monthly Teleconference for September 5, 2000

On the teleconference were Warren Marton (DOE-OFES), Chuck Finfgeld (DOE-OFES), Greg Pitonak (DOE-PG), Jim Lyon (ORNL), Hutch Neilson (PPPL), and Bob Simmons (PPPL).

OFES Report (Warren and Chuck) - Warren and Chuck reported that the Senate may meet as early as this afternoon to vote on the Senate version (lower funding for fusion) of the Water and Energy Bill. Since this an election year, it is hoped that a House/Senate conference committee would be reached before the end of September. However, the initial Fin Plan coming out will be based on the Senate numbers. Hutch remarked that PPPL was planning based on the President's proposed budget which is higher than that of the Senate, but lower than that of the House.

Chuck also reported that DOE is considering the recent stellarator planning letter from Goldston and Madia. He did not know whether any response would be made formally. He did indicate that John Willis wants FESAC involved in the overall stellarator program plans. Hutch indicated that it is expected that OFES would include a subset of the FESAC committee in the PVR.

Mission Need Justification Documentation (Jim and Hutch) - Jim and Hutch indicated that an initial draft had been prepared and is being finalized by PPPL and ORNL. It is recognized that this document is really a DOE document and this submittal will be in the form of a recommendation to DOE for their further editing and processing. The plan is discuss this further at the PPPL Site Visit next week and to obtain DOE approval by the end of September. ACTION: Neilson and Lyon and then Marton and Finfgeld.

PVR Planning (Hutch and Jim) - Hutch led a brief discussion on how we should proceed in planning for the PVR. Tentative dates of Dec 18-20th have been identified. It was agreed that dates would have to be "locked in" at least 60 days in advance (not later than Oct 18th) to kick off the planning. Documents would be due to reviewers ~2 weeks in advance of the review. ACTION: Neilson and Finfgeld.

New DOE Program and Project Management Documentation - the newly created Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) in the Comptroller's Office, had prepared two "massive" documents: (1) a ~150 page Program and Project Management Manual and (2) a ~450 page Guidelines and Best Practices Manual. Both

are in draft form and are being reviewed by both DOE-PG and PPPL. What is evident, however, is that the Critical Decisions Process and Milestones will be the focus of DOE attention. It was agreed that Greg would send Warren and Chuck an electronic copy of these. ACTION: Pitonak.

Action Items from Last Meeting (Bob) - all open items from the last teleconference (July) have been completed.

Next NCSX/QOS Meetings - QOS will hold a Project Meeting on September 19th at ORNL and NCSX will hold its next Project Meeting at PPPL September 26 and 27th.

Summary by:
Bob Simmons