

NCSX-DOE IPT Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2003.

Attendees:

G. Pitonak - DOE-PAO

G. Nardella, C. Finfgeld, Warren Marton - DOE-OFES

H. Neilson, R. Strykowski, R. Templon, J. Levine, R. Simmons - PPPL

J. Lyon - ORNL.

1. News

Gene Nardella reported out on last week's FESAC meeting. The focus was on ITER and nothing specific was mentioned on NCSX.

Informal discussions with Jim Carney have, in the past, indicated that Lehman would not get involved in NCSX reviews (except as an observer) until after the Project achieves CD-3. However, last week, Jim possibly indicated a change in position. (greg subsequently followed up with Jim and he confirmed that the Lehman Reviews would not commence until after CD-3).

During discussions and questions on the upcoming contracts on the modular coils (2 contracts worth ~\$600K each and expected to be awarded this week) and the vacuum vessel 20 degree segment (currently still in evaluation, but expected to be ~\$400K each and to be awarded by the end of the month), the question on whether this will be OPEX or MIE funded came up again. The NCSX Cost Guidelines, approved by DOE and consistent with the previous NSTX Cost Guidelines, would lead someone to believe these should be OPEX funded. However, Warren strongly pointed out that these were put forward in the early planning stages and documentation (AEP and PEP) as being MIE funded.

It was agreed that Greg, Hutch, Warren, and Gene would work with Ed Winkler and others to resolve this issue. After researching the background documents, meetings will be scheduled as needed. ACTION: Hutch and Greg coordinate.

2. NCSX Project Status

Hutch and Greg reported that the PCS Review went very well and that the final report is about ready for release. There were no major findings, but several recommendations that could result in an improved system. The Project will respond to each of these findings and recommendations.

Hutch confirmed that the external R&D contracts were about ready to award and that the in-house R&D was going well. In-house R&D is focusing on establishing the processes for VPI and keystone testing. Key information expected will be the gathering of mechanical properties and processes.

It is expected that the modular coil and vacuum vessel geometry will be established by the end of this month and will support start of Title 1 design on April 1st. The cooling concept development has been progressing well, the need for the poloidal break has

been confirmed, and significant progress has been made in settling in on both the vacuum vessel and modular coil geometries. The work to date is fully expected to support the PDR in late June.

Hutch reviewed the Project transition plans to move off the CR to Title I design on April 1st. We have started the process to update the technical documentation and estimates, have established a template to be in a position to explain the work accomplished during the CR, and are exploring candidate future work that could be accelerated into FY2003 by using available Management Reserve funds.

It was agreed that the OFES NCSX team will meet with NCSX Project personnel to discuss PDR preparations and plans during next week's budget meeting. Tentatively, the meeting will occur ~11:00 am on Tuesday.

Greg indicated that he will contact OECM around late April to start planning the EIR. This will include some suggestions on scope and how to use the PDR technical report as input to the EIR. It is hoped that the EIR will occur in late July.

3. Next IPT Meeting: Tues., April 1st at 11:00. PPPL personnel will meet in the DOE Conference Room vs. Hutch's office. These minutes will be posted on the NCSX Project Web page (NCSX Project Home Page => Management => Integrated Project Team).

Summary by:
Bob Simmons and Hutch Neilson