




## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

March 13, 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR Daniel R. Lehman,  
Construction Management Support Division

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

SUBJECT: Cost and Schedule 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 to evaluate the project's current cost and schedule performance. This information will help SC determine that the NCSX Project is meeting the SC project performance goals and provide recommendations to address any issues you may discover.

The review shall be conducted on May 9 - 10, 2006, at PPPL. In carrying out its charge, the review committee should respond to the following questions:

1. Does the project performance to date support the conclusion that the procurements for the modular coil winding forms and vacuum vessel assemblies are now proceeding according to the FY 2006 performance baseline for the project?
2. Is the project risk assessment current and credible? Are there realistic mechanisms in place for evaluating and resolving any future project risks, including technical issues and changes, which may arise?
3. Has the project taken appropriate measures to assess and control the cost of in-house fabrication and assembly activities?
4. Are the project's cost and schedule estimates credible and realistic for this stage of the project? Do they include adequate cost and schedule contingency? Does the contingency reflect a thorough risk based analysis?
5. Is the Integrated Project Team and the PPPL/ORNL Project Team appropriately staffed and functioning as defined in DOE Order 413.3 and the Project Execution Plan?

Barry Sullivan, 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 30 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 Barry at 301-903-8438.

cc:

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