



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 15, 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR DANIEL R. LEHMAN

DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PROJECT ASSESSMENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE

FROM:

EDMUND J. SYNAKOWSKI *E. Synakowski*
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE
FOR THE OFFICE OF FUSION ENERGY SCIENCES

SUBJECT:

OFFICE OF SCIENCE PROJECT REVIEW FOR THE
NATIONAL SPHERICAL TORUS EXPERIMENT
UPGRADE PROJECT

I would like to request that your office organize and lead an Office of Science (SC) project readiness review of the National Spherical Torus Experiment (NSTX) Upgrade Project at Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL) in preparation for DOE's approval of Critical Decision 1 (CD-1)-Alternative Selection and Cost Range.

The NSTX Upgrade Project Mission Need (CD-0) was approved in February 2009, and the project is planning to seek approval of the CD-1. The purpose of the review is to assess NSTX Upgrade Project readiness for CD-1.

Specifically, the committee is requested to assess the following items:

1. Is the selected approach to upgrade the NSTX device technically sound?
2. Based on the current stage of project, have all the appropriate project risks been identified?
3. Is the proposed cost and schedule range, including contingency, realistic and reasonable?
4. Given the current stage of the project, is the project's management structure and team appropriate, and are the plans to support the next phase of the project sufficient?
5. Has the project satisfied the documentation requirements for CD-1 as required by DOE Order 413.3A?
6. Are Environmental, Safety and Health aspects being properly addressed given the project's current stage of development?



Barry Sullivan, of my staff, will work closely with you as necessary to plan and carry out this review. You are requested to submit a formal report to my office within 60 days of the review. I look forward to receiving your Committee's report.

cc:

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