



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

May 18, 2012

Dr. Hugh Montgomery
Thomas Jefferson National
Accelerator Facility
12000 Jefferson Avenue
Newport News, VA 23606

Dear Dr. Montgomery:

Enclosed are two documents, the Department of Energy (DOE) Report of the combined Science and Technical, Cost, Schedule, and Management Review of the proposed Super BigBite Spectrometer (SBS) program held on October 13-14, 2011, at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Newport News, Virginia, and a document with excerpts from the individual reviewer reports. We would like to thank the project team for their efforts in generating documentation and making preparations for this review, and for responding appropriately to the recommendations generated at the review.

The review panel found the SBS science program to be compelling and technically feasible, provided that the projected technical performance can be achieved. The panel endorsed the proposed technical choices and their realization. While some of the performance requirements were viewed as challenging, the panel did not identify any technical showstoppers. The quality of the cost, schedule, and workforce information presented at the review was inadequate, to the extent that the panel was unable to perform a meaningful assessment. This left the panel (and this Office) with serious concerns about the strength of the proposed management team and adequate laboratory management involvement.

In response to the review recommendations, the SBS project team, working with laboratory management and drawing on the extensive project management resources available at the laboratory, has significantly revised the Project Management Plan and, in particular, updated it with an acceptable set of key performance parameters as well as credible cost and resource-loaded schedule information. As a result, this Office grants approval for the SBS program to proceed to fabrication. Laboratory management is asked to work closely with the SBS team to ensure project success. Looking further ahead, the collaboration should continue to work with the cognizant research program

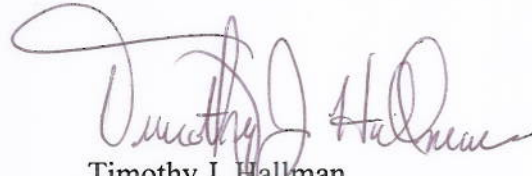


manager to expand the Research Management Plan to elucidate the scientific effort required to produce physics results in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,



Jehanne Gillo
Director
Facilities and Project Management Division
Office of Nuclear Physics



Timothy J. Hallman
Acting Director
Physics Research Division
Office of Nuclear Physics

Enclosures

cc: Robert McKeown, TJNAF
Joseph Arango, TJSO
Bradley D. Keister, NSF