

## **FES funds the National Academies to conduct a fast-track study on the development of a pilot plant**

**June 15, 2020:** The Fusion Energy Sciences (FES) program of the Office of Science is supporting the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) to conduct a fast-track study focused on the construction of a pilot plant in the United States that produces electricity from fusion at the lowest possible capital cost (“Pilot Plant”).

In the study, to be completed within eight months of project initiation, the committee of experts assembled by NASEM shall provide a concise report that addresses the following points:

- In developing and carrying out a plan for building a Pilot Plant, key goals need to be established for all critical aspects of the Pilot Plant. Identify those key goals, independent of confinement concept, which a Pilot Plant must demonstrate during each of its anticipated phases of operation.
- List the principal innovations needed for the private sector to address, perhaps in concert with efforts by DOE, to meet the key goals identified in the first bullet.

The NASEM study is complementary to the FESAC-led long-range strategic planning for FES that is under way.