

Fusion Science Center Initiative

Fusion Energy Science Advisory Committee



Dr. John Willis

Director, Research Division

July 31, 2003

Fusion Science Center Initiative



Recommendation of the National Research Council Report "An Assessment of the Department of Energy's Office of Fusion energy Sciences Program"

- o "Several new centers, selected through a competitive peer-review process and devoted to exploring the frontiers of fusion science, are needed for both scientific and institutional reasons."
 - •Help establish links to the broader scientific community
 - •Strong educational component

Fusion Science Center Description

- o Focus of Center initiative is on areas of fundamental importance to Fusion Plasma Science
- o \$2 Million in FY 2004 Funding for Fusion Science Centers
 - One to two centers possible
 - Host institution is expected to provide at least 15% cost sharing
 - Center expected to host workshops and summer schools
- o Grant duration of 5 years with possible 5 year renewal
- o Center will be a University based Center of Excellence with possibility of up to 20% of funding going to a National Laboratory(s) partner

Phased Review Process

- o Federal Register Notice ~ August 15, 2003
- o October 15, 2003 Letter of Intent Requested, but not required
- o December 1, 2003 receipt of Preliminary Applications for review by panel
- o January 15, 2004 Full Applicants are selected from Preliminary Applications
- o March 1, 2004 Deadline for receipt of Full Applications
- o April, 2004 Panel Review of Full Applications, including oral presentation by proposed key Center participants
- o May 2004 Fusion Science Center Awards

Phased Review Criteria

- o Scientific and Technical Merit
- o Clear evidence of collaborative work
- o Extent to which the Fusion Science Center would address difficult problems requiring a team effort
- o Emphasize synergy of collaborations facilitated by the Center
- o Clear evidence of scientific leadership
- o Plans to manage the integrated activities and communicate the relevance and scientific impact of Center's work