

April 11, 2005

Dr. N. Anne Davies
Office of Fusion Energy Sciences
Office of Science
U.S. Department of Energy
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Dear Anne:

At the April 7, 2005 meeting of the Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee (FESAC), you asked the Committee to comment on, and improve, the intermediate milestones associated with the long-range goals of the fusion program in relation to the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). After examining the goals and milestones as presently written, and taking into account the discussion of this topic at our July 2004 meeting, FESAC has come to the following conclusions:

1. The long-range goals that FESAC previously approved remain appropriate.
2. The intermediate milestones may now require revision, for two reasons: they do not take into account the recent, very important report of the Priorities Panel, presented to FESAC today; and they may not be consistent with recently announced changes in fusion funding.

Therefore FESAC recommends that the Office of Fusion Energy Sciences reconsider and revise the intermediate milestones shown on the fusion program roadmap, using the Priorities Panel Report as a guide. The revised milestones would help in particular the newly formed Panel on Progress toward Long-range Goals.

Yours truly,

Richard Hazeltine
Chair, Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee