

Office of Director

August 21, 2008

Dr. Tony Chan
Assistant Director
Directorate for
Mathematical & Physical Sciences
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22230

Dr. Jehanne Simon-Gillo
Acting Associate Director
Office of Nuclear Physics
U.S. Department of Energy
GTN SC-26
19901 Germantown Road
Germantown, MD 20874

Dear Drs. Chan and Simon-Gillo:

Accompanying this letter is the 'Report To The Nuclear Science Advisory Committee' that was submitted by the subcommittee on performance measures. The report was unanimously approved at the NSAC meeting on August 21, 2008. As part of the development of a new long range plan, an update of the 2003 NSAC report that established long term performance goals for the DOE Office of Nuclear Physics, and metrics for evaluating the program activities, was requested in a charge letter to NSAC dated July 17, 2006. This report is NSAC's response to that request.

The attached document provides the first examination of the set of milestones from the 2003 NSAC report on performance goals. Using this assessment as input, an analysis of the progress towards the performance measures put forward in the previous report was carried out, and three new measures were added. In addition, the milestones used to gauge progress toward fulfilling the performance measures were updated in this report.

The original set of performance measures was laid out realizing that a sustained high effort of research would be required to achieve them by the originally proposed dates of 2015 and beyond. Progress towards successful completion of most performance measures has been good. Excellent progress has been made for a few. As indicated in the report, completion of the performance measures by their target dates will depend critically upon the future level of federal support made available to the nuclear physics program.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Tribble
Chair, NSAC

cc: Joseph Dehmer
Brad Keister