

Office of Director

August 29, 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. Changes were made to two performance measures based upon new information that has been obtained since they were originally drafted. In addition, the milestones used to gauge progress toward fulfilling the performance measures were updated in this report.

The original performance measures were 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 several. 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Robert E. Tribble'.

Robert E. Tribble  
Chair, NSAC

cc: Joseph Dehmer  
Brad Keister