

What Will The Neighbors Think?
A Discussion with the Fermilab ILC Citizens' Task Force

July 27, 2007, 2:45 PM – 3:30 PM
One West, Wilson Hall

The ILC Citizen's Task Force

In January, 2007, Fermilab convened 28 local stakeholders representing a wide range of viewpoints to explore issues associated with locating the International Linear Collider at Fermilab. The Task Force meets monthly to learn about the ILC and the process of siting and building it at Fermilab. In early 2008, they will develop and present recommendations to Fermilab regarding the ILC issues most important to the community.

This discussion will provide the Fermilab community an opportunity to explore how to answer some of the local community's most challenging questions and meet some members of the Task Force.

Potential Discussion Questions

1. If you were invited to give a presentation to the local PTA on why we should invest a large amount of our tax money in the ILC, what would you say? What are the scientific and social benefits of building the ILC?
2. If the ILC were built under my home, what would that mean to me? What are the safety, environmental, health, and economic impacts that I should understand?
3. How can we be sure that we will get honest information about risks and impacts of the ILC? Why should we trust you? How do we know that we will be treated fairly by the government when it comes to construction impacts and land acquisition?
4. What role should the physics community play in working directly with the local community to bring the ILC to Fermilab?
5. Why should we build the ILC at Fermilab? What are the benefits for the local community? Why is Fermilab the best site for the ILC, even with the high density here?
6. What is the true risk to people and the environment from radiation generated by the ILC? What are the potential effects of the ILC on groundwater? How would you convey these risks to the public at the PTA meeting?
7. If you had sixty seconds to explain the ILC, how would you describe what it is and what it does?
8. What can local citizens do to promote the ILC in the US, and specifically to help bring it to Fermilab?
9. What political strategy would turn the ILC into a reality? (locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally)