

## **FY 2003 Appropriations Omnibus Bill**

### Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee

"Fusion energy sciences.--The conference agreement includes \$250,000,000 for fusion energy sciences, an increase of \$1,505,000 over fiscal year 2002. The conferees note that the fiscal year 2002 funding level included \$19,604,000 for the completion of decontamination and decommissioning of the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor (TFTR), leaving \$228,891,000 available for fusion research and facility operations in fiscal year 2002. By comparison, the conference agreement for fiscal year 2003 makes this \$19,604,000, plus an additional \$1,505,000, available for fusion research and facility operations, an increase of 9.2 percent over the comparable amount available in fiscal year 2002.

Within the funding available for fusion energy sciences, the Department should make additional funding of \$1,500,000 available to the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory to support the National Spherical Torus Experiment (NSTX) research, NSTX operations, and preliminary design for the National Compact Stellarator Experiment (NCSX). Within available funding, the Department should report back to the Appropriations Committees no later than August 1, 2003, with an evaluation of the "fast ignition" concept and with any recommendations regarding the schedule and milestones of the High Energy Density Physics Program. "

February 20, 2003