



Department of Energy
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

TO: Distribution

SUBJECT: Preparations for Snowmass Meeting

As most of you are aware, plans are being made to convene a major community meeting at Snowmass, Colorado in July of 2002 (<http://lithos.gat.com/snowmass/>). While this meeting can be seen as a follow on to the 1999 Snowmass meeting, the intent is to have a more focused assessment of major next steps in the fusion program. In particular, this meeting will provide an opportunity for wide-ranging community discussions regarding the scientific issues associated with burning plasma experiments, especially those that might be associated with the major magnetic fusion experiments that have been proposed: ITER, FIRE, and IGNITOR. At the same time, the IFE segment of the fusion community will be meeting to consider plans for prospective integrated research experiments and next steps within that approach to fusion.

We have seen this meeting evolve through community discussions, workshops, and FESAC deliberations. I want to lend the full support of the Office of Fusion Energy Sciences to this endeavor. For that purpose and in response to the recommendations of FESAC, we have set aside nearly \$1 million of FY 2002 funding to assist with technical assessments that should take place before the meeting. We also ask that the fusion program leaders support this activity by making key staff available as much as is practicable without sacrificing other important objectives.

I have also asked OFES staff to assist with these additional responsibilities by recognizing the need to divert existing resources (within the constraint noted above) in support of the Snowmass program. I am certain that with open communications we can manage this process in a balanced way. If you have any questions regarding additional resources or redirection of existing activities, please raise them with your OFES program manager. When necessary, John Willis or Mike Roberts will be pleased to clarify priorities.

N. Anne Davies
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for Fusion Energy Sciences
Office of Science