

**CHARTER OF THE
NSTX PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 25, 1998**

I. Introduction

The National Spherical Torus Experiment (NSTX) is a national facility for developing fusion science and plasma confinement innovation, and establishing a world leadership role in spherical torus research. Broad community participation in research planning, experimental operations, data analysis and theory is essential for the success of the NSTX research program. A Program Advisory Committee (PAC) is established to ensure this community participation.

II. Responsibilities

The PAC will review the progress of the NSTX program and provide advice on:

- The NSTX experimental research plan including key priorities and milestones, consistent with the DOE-approved work scope,
- Major new research initiatives on NSTX to be proposed to DOE, and
- Adjustments to program priorities, taking into account the mission of NSTX and the overall directions of the U.S. and world fusion programs.

The PAC will provide this advice to the PPPL Director. The PAC will address key issues developed by the NSTX Program Director and the NSTX Project Director and/or suggested by the PAC, and subsequently requested in writing by the PPPL Director. The NSTX Program Director is responsible for implementing the NSTX Program, with the guidance of the PPPL Office of the Director.

III. Membership

The PPPL Director appoints the PAC members and Chair. The PAC will consist of approximately ten members and the Chair, and provide a balanced representation of scientific and technical expertise from major laboratories and universities, including one or two from foreign institutions. As vacancies occur in membership, the NSTX Program Director and the PAC Chair together will prepare a list of replacement candidates for consideration by the PPPL Director. The NSTX Program Director and the NSTX Project Director will serve as ex officio nonvoting members of the PAC.

The normal tenure of membership on the PAC will be four years. A membership may be renewed after two years following a previous tenure. For continuity, the PAC Chair will serve for four years and can serve contiguously as the Chair or a member for up to eight years in combination. Appointments for the initial PAC members will be either two years or four years, approximately.

IV. Meetings

Regular meetings of the PAC will be held at PPPL two or three times annually. The PPPL Director will call these meetings at least four weeks in advance. Time on the agenda will be made available for members of the fusion community interested in addressing the PAC on issues related to NSTX research. Such interests should be made known to the PAC Chair at least two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting in order for the agenda to be finalized. Additional PAC meetings may be called by the PPPL Director on the advice of the NSTX Program Director, the NSTX Project Director, or the PAC Chair.

V. Reporting Requirements

The PAC report will be prepared by the Chair and submitted to the PPPL Director with copies to key DOE representatives. On issues lacking consensus, the report should include vote counts. Minority reports by two or more members may be included in the PAC report or submitted separately.