

NSTX Weekly Report (July 1, 2011)

FY 2011 NSTX plasma operations started on October 4, 2010

FY 2011 NSTX Outage started on October 25, 2010

Planned Run Weeks: TBD

Run Weeks Completed: 4.21 run weeks and 839 plasma shots

Jon Menard (PPPL) attended the 24th Symposium on Fusion Engineering (SOFE) in Chicago, IL held June 26-30, 2011 and presented an invited talk entitled: "NSTX Research Highlights and Progress Toward NSTX Upgrade." (J. Menard)

Engineering Operations (A. von Halle, C. Neumeier)

Preparations for upcoming NSTX operations continued this week with the vacuum vessel bake and the ongoing conditioning of the neutral beam ion sources. The neutral beam ion source in the "A" position developed an internal fault and will be replaced with a fresh spare. The ion sources in the "B" and "C" positions have successfully completed low voltage (plasma chamber) conditioning, and are ready to start high voltage (accelerator) conditioning. The Test Cell safety lockout system was pressurized this week to allow for testing of the field coil safety disconnect switches and for open circuit testing of the rectifier used to power the new switching power amplifier (SPA2) supplies.

Access to the NSTX test cell is expected to be available this coming week.