**SEF Discussion Points for Workshop**

* What’s a reasonable timeframe for the emergence of fusion power “on the grid”?
  + 7 years to “technical feasibility” (Q >> 1); and then,
  + 3 years to a demonstration power plant; goal for power generation = ?
  + 5 more years to first commercial power plant (!?); are these times reasonable !?
* What were the timeframes of the rise of wind and solar power; compare to our estimates above? What are the parallels and what are the differences between wind/solar and fusion?
* What other technical items are on the critical path to fusion on the grid? [ Should we turn the whole workshop into a brainstorming session for the fusion project people to address the list of other critical path items ? Probably not at this point, but this might be a good idea for a separate workshop! ]
  + Tritium breeding
  + Commercially viable method for coping with wall damage
  + (what else?)
  + (what should be done NOW to address these items?)
* Traditional issues between us and practical fusion power; where are we now?
  + Plasma stability (tokamak issue)
  + Achieving adequate Triple Product
  + Wall damage
  + Tritium breeding
  + Cost of a commercial plant – capital costs
  + Operating costs of a commercial plant
  + [ what else is on the list of science questions to be “answered” by ITER which cast doubt on the likelihood for success of the alternative projects? ]
* How do we come up with good cost estimates for the capital and operating costs of a fusion plant!?
* What was it about the Genentech IPO which so excited investors, even with the prospect of product revenues so far in the future? Was it solely the estimated royalties from the commercial deals in place ? [JIT to research this]
* Why isn’t the government funding at a greater rate, if this progress is so promising?
* Why has government funding been so low, relatively speaking for so long?
* Why is the world consortium, ITER, so out of pace with what you describe as such exciting progress?
* For discussion…. How could we shift spending the [$40BIL?] on ITER to quicker, possibly more promising approaches?
* What will it take for the start up fusion companies to go public after technical feasibility is demo'd?
  + current revenues ???
  + clear path to a sustainable business ?
  + some comparables against which to compare valuations ? [ how to break this circle ? ]
  + clear business plan, including produce or service margins, path to profitability ?
* Regulatory issues:
  + How does Tritium get regulated and by whom?
  + Other (for the US) NRC issues.
  + What about the equivalent regulatory agencies in the rest of the world?