

# Stellar Energy Foundation

June 6, 2018

# Overview

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## Original SEF Approach

Make grants to one or more important small R&D projects which have the potential of getting the attention of government funders who would realize they should ramp up their financial support of fusion energy R&D . Funds would come from philanthropic contributions SEF would get from individuals and institutions.

- SEF had no formal plan for raising philanthropic funds beyond calling people we know
- Original list of target projects: (1) new Stellarator design (2) Liquid metal technology for wall damage (3) High  $T_c$  superconducting magnets

## MIT and Commonwealth Fusion Systems

- In Spring 2017, MIT told us they are working on a commercial spin out for High  $T_c$  magnet based fusion
- Goal: energy break even in 7 years; commercial demo plant in 15 years
- SEF focused for the last year on making calls to raise money for Commonwealth and give business advice to Commonwealth.
- Commonwealth Closed on \$ 65 MM on June 1; hoping to top off with total of \$ 100 MM.
- SEF may get founders "shares"

## Now what for SEF?

If SEF is going to raise money, relationships must be cultivated and donors must feel motivated.

## Key Next Step...

Organize a world conference on Fusion Energy, attended by all groups of stake holders, such as...

- R&D groups
- Policy Makers
- Infrastructure Companies
- Energy Companies
- Government agencies State and National
- Climate Change organizations
- Financial Institutions
- Potential Investors
- Potential Philanthropic Donors

## Purpose of the Conference

- Education of donors and investors
- Education of the public
- Create a community of interested people and institutions
- By increasing visibility and knowledge, pave the way for financial support

## The Engine Workshop and SEF's "New" Friends

- June 1st Workshop in Cambridge, MA, held by the MIT Incubator and Venture Fund which backed Commonwealth
- Attendees included only Commonwealth as an R&D team
- Attendees included other non-profits focused on helping fusion:
  - 1 Fusion Consortium
  - 2 American Fusion Project
  - 3 Pegasus Fusion Strategies
  - 4 Strong Atomics



## Fusion Consortium

- "An international constellation of development teams working to electrify the world with fusion"
- organizing an XPrize for work in Fusion
- [Link to Fusion Consortium](#)
- Randall Volberg

## American Fusion Project

- lobbying group
- education of the public aimed at influencing US Government for funding
- regular conference call to unite and energize its constituents
- [Link to American Fusion Project](#)
- Andrew Holland

## Pegasus Fusion Strategies

- dedicated to "preparing the external world to believe, invest, and plan for fusion"
- education
- Jane Hotchkiss, Wally Johnston

## Strong Atomics

- invests in nuclear fusion startups to create an additional source of clean, cheap, abundant and safe energy.
- [Link to Strong Atomics](#)
- Malcolm Handley

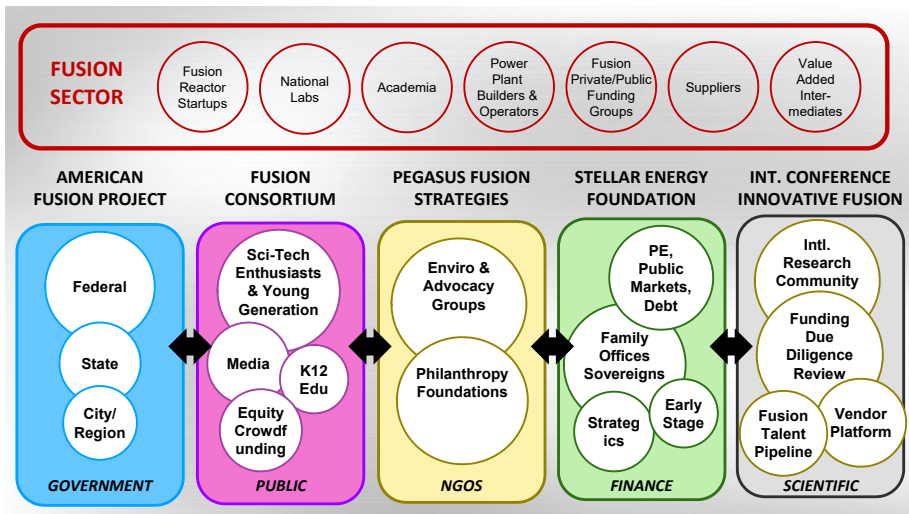
## Rein Beeuwkes

- "fusion advocate"
- invested/loaned Commonwealth Fusion \$2 MM

## Follow up from the Workshop

- the group of "Fusion Friends" are responsible for following up on action items from the workshop
- Randall Volberg collects "affiliates" and is pushing for an umbrella organization to coordinate the several non-profits focused on fusion
- SEF should participate and help lead this emerging association

## Randall Volberg's Map ...



## Next Steps for SEF

- Refine SEF Mission and Strategy
  - Philanthropy as funding source
  - Grant making organization
- Recruit Advisory Board
- Refine fund raising approach
- Assess Wall Street Fund idea (see next page)
- Confirm World Conference idea



## Wall Street Fund idea

- Raise large fund using large Wall Street firm
- go to wealth management clients receptive to "save the world"
- form as charitable deduction eligible
- We would need:
  - answer to track record of SEF
  - world-class scientific advisory board
  - complete 'business plan' etc.

# The End