

Nuclear and Particle Physics Directorate

Managed by Brookhaven Science Associates
for the U.S. Department of Energy

Memorandum

From: Berndt Mueller
To: David Morrison, Gunther Roland
Cc: Ed O'Brien, James Dunlop
Date: March 30, 2016

Dear Dave and Gunther:

In discussions since the November 2015 Cost and Schedule Review for sPHENIX, it has become clear that further work is needed to develop a plan for the construction of the sPHENIX detector within the constraints of possible DOE funding redirected from RHIC Operations.

I have therefore requested that sPHENIX Project Management, in close collaboration with the sPHENIX Collaboration, develops a credible plan encompassing an option of baseline design scope, cost, and schedule that will allow the detector to be completed on schedule for data taking in the FY2022 RHIC run within the presently foreseen DOE funding profile, and that the sPHENIX Project Management present this plan to BNL management no later than May 31, 2016. The plan should maintain the 40% contingency requested by the cost and schedule review. This plan should not assume the availability of additional funding from non-DOE sources, but may describe which elements would be added to the baseline scope of sPHENIX if additional funding became available.

I am aware that design scope choices will likely require making priority choices with respect to the scientific scope of the sPHENIX physics program. The sPHENIX collaboration and project management team should work closely in establishing these priority choices as needed. I trust that you understand that the sole purpose of my request is to ensure the success of sPHENIX and its future science program. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have at our bi-weekly sPHENIX spokespersons meetings.