



News Release

A Department of Energy / University of California Laboratory

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LLNL STATEMENT REGARDING THE NATIONAL IGNITION FACILITY AND SECRETARY OF ENERGY BILL RICHARDSON'S SERIES OF ACTIONS

(Lawrence Livermore National Lab Director Bruce Tarter issued the following statement today - in response to Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson's news release regarding the National Ignition Facility)

LIVERMORE, Calif.-- "We share Secretary Richardson's concerns related to the National Ignition Facility and we will work closely with the Department of Energy to implement his directives. We will also work closely with the University of California on this issue.

We strongly agree with his statement on the importance of NIF to national security and that the technical aspects of NIF are still very sound. We also agree that project management is extremely important. We have already taken the following actions:

1. The National Ignition Facility has been made an institutional program reporting directly to my office. I have asked George Miller, associate director for national security, to oversee the day to day operations. Ed Moses has also been appointed the new project manager for NIF.
2. Robert Kuckuck, deputy director of operations and George Miller have been directed to conduct a thorough review to investigate management actions related to NIF.

The Lab is committed to all actions necessary to ensure the timely success of NIF for the DOE's Stockpile Stewardship Program." --Bruce Tarter

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