



Feedback and Actions from the MICE Oversight Committee Meeting of 15th October 2014

1. The Committee thanked the Collaboration for their report, which had been submitted in the format requested and was much easier to read than previous reports.

2. The Committee endorsed the plans for DMICA, and recognised that it carried reduced risks and provided a clear path to the end of the project on a realistic timescale. The studies done for DMICA had been useful, and the Committee congratulated Dr Blackmore on her work, which was recognised as very good and important.

3. The Committee were pleased at the progress that had been made on the Focus Coils, in particular the achievement of stability over several training cycles. It welcomed the decision to use FC2 in step IV but noted that further stability tests are important and would be valuable. Progress in the MICE Hall, replacement of the trigger, and the installation of new technologies were also significant developments.

4. The Committee noted that staff effort during operations and strength of collaboration to carry this out was still a concern, which has been recognised by Spokesperson.

5. As there appeared to be much work to be done to understand the new schedule, risks and finances, the Collaboration were requested to produce a single well-defined project plan for completion of both steps by the end of November 2014 for the MICE Project Board meeting. This would form the new baseline plan against which the schedule would be judged for the remainder of the project. It would need to include US elements of the project.

Action: The Collaboration

6. The Committee were disappointed at the delays to installation of the Partial Return Yoke, particularly given the pressure previously applied to expedite this. It was noted that the PRY was an essential component for Step IV and would have a major impact on the project if not delivered on time.

7. The Committee noted that the schedule for delivery of Step IV was very tight, and that this represented a hard end-point. They wished to make sure that the Collaboration understood this, and to consider what could be achieved by the end of Step IV. The Committee asked for details of the Collaboration's run plans with 2 or 4 run periods.

Action: The Collaboration

8. The Collaboration would also need to understand that the UK cost-to-completion review in 2015 was another hard deadline. It was noted that the current research grant funding stopped at the end of March 2016, and that the Collaboration would need to apply for new funding in 12 months' time. Progress towards a successful period of operation at Step IV would be needed to ensure confidence that DMICA was viable and achievable.



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9. The STFC agreed to seek clarification from the DOE of the US funding position so that there was a common understanding of the US's commitment to MICE. This would be discussed at the Funding Agencies Committee meeting at the end of November 2014.

10. The committee noted the potential risks associated with availability of expert RF staff at Daresbury Laboratory for the MICE project, at this stage this is not a major concern but the situation needs to be monitored/clarified.

11. The next meeting was agreed for Thursday 16th April 2015 at RAL.