



Department of Energy  
Office of Science  
Washington, DC 20585

July 1, 2020

Dr. Steven Cowley  
Director  
Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory  
100 Stellerator Road  
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Dr. Cowley:

It is a pleasure to inform you that the Princeton University (PU) at the Department of Energy (DOE) Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL) has successfully completed the DOE Earned Value Management System (EVMS) Acceptance Review process. As a result of the independent surveillance review conducted and the corrective actions taken by PU-PPPL, it has been determined that the EVMS is compliant and meets the guidelines of the Electrical Industries Alliance (EIA)-748.

To verify EVMS compliance, an independent surveillance/EVMS acceptance review was conducted at PPPL on December 4-5, 2019, to determine if the PU-PPPL EVMS met the EIA requirements. During the review, the surveillance committee identified five Corrective Action Requests (CARs); five Continuous Improvement Opportunities\* (CIO\*), requiring formal corrective action; and five Continuous Improvement Opportunities.

*Corrective Action Request (CARs)*

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| CAR-01 | Organizational Breakdown Structure not being organized by function;  |
| CAR-02 | Percent Complete Earned Value method not being used correctly;   |
| CAR-03 | Monthly Estimate to Complete process to be reviewed and revised to report credible Estimate at Completion information; |
| CAR-04 | Incomplete Baseline Change Proposal documentation, and   |
| CAR-05 | Revisions being made without authorization.  |

*Continuous Improvement Opportunities\* (CIOs\*)*

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| CIO-01* | Work Authorization—process decision needed;                |
| CIO-02* | Work started before work authorized;                       |
| CIO-03* | Cost Estimating procedure not being followed;              |
| CIO-04* | Ensure schedule quality after monthly updates; and         |
| CIO-05* | Variance Analysis Process and timeliness needs to improve. |

\*CIOs are not strict requirements, but would improve the EVMS system and require a corrective action plan.

*Continuous Improvement Opportunities (CIOs)*

- CIO-01 Define/clarify the role of the technical lead;
- CIO-02 Isolate escalation in Cobra as a calculated value;
- CIO-03 Extracting monthly actual costs;
- CIO-04 Utilize timecard review feature that is available in the system to ensure timecard accuracy; and
- CIO-05 Add formal Configuration Control Board process.

PU-PPPL provided a Corrective Action Plan dated March 31, 2020, to address the CARs/CIOs/ CIO\*s. The actions proposed and undertaken by PU-PPPL in the Corrective Action Plan are acceptable.

OPA urges you to continue to maintain the high level of compliance that your staff demonstrated to the EVMS committee during the on-site review and the CAR resolution process to ensure continued EIA-748 compliance and a valid EVMS certification.

Sincerely,

7/1/2020

**X** Kurt W. Fisher

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Signed by: CASEY CLARK

**Kurt W. Fisher**  
 Director  
 Office of Project Assessment

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