October 1, 2014

NOvA Experiment Readiness Review
October 28th, 2014

CHARGE

The NOvA Near and Far Detectors are now complete and are expected to receive abut 2E20 protons on target (POT) in FY15, and a total of 36E20 POT within the coming decade. We would like the committee to review the preparations for running, maintaining the detectors, and data taking and analysis, including the current status of the detector, the status of the online and offline software, and the run plan. In particular:

1. Is there a completed Experiment Operations Plan (EOP) document that includes a description of operations tasks and how they will be covered, ES&H activities and how they will be managed, organization charts showing the management structure for the experiment and how it interfaces to the laboratory, the model for data processing and analysis including the budget and effort required, a list of the identified resources available, and a description of the roles and responsibilities of each institution together with a list of the support required by each institution from the funding agencies?

2. Has it been demonstrated that the detectors are ready for physics-quality data taking? If not, what actions are required to make the detectors ready? Is there a clear plan for monitoring the data quality and has the associated infrastructure been tested? If not, what actions are required to adequately monitor the data quality once beam returns?

3. Have adequate resources from the laboratory and the collaboration been identified for the efficient and safe running and maintenance of the detectors, and is it clear who is responsible for what?

4. Based on realistic expectations for accelerator performance, is there a well-understood run plan for FY15, and are there clear science goals for the Summer 2015 conferences? Have adequate resources from the laboratory and the collaboration been identified for the data analysis to meet these goals?

We would like a brief written report addressing these questions by November 7th, 2014.