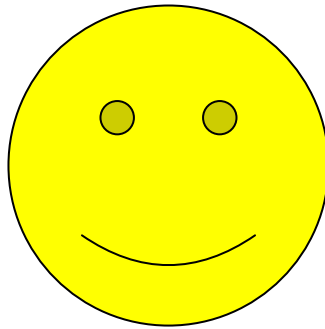


US ITER Forum Yellow Group Summary

Presented by J A Snipes



What should be the US strategy for ITER negotiations and planning?

➤ Procurement packages

- Contributions in kind?
- Contributions in cash to the ITER central team?
- Hybrid 25-50% in kind, the rest in cash?
- What should be the relation between construction phase contributions and research phase responsibilities and activities?

What should be the US strategy for ITER negotiations and planning?

➤ Procurement packages

- Detailed discussion of the trade-offs between in kind and in cash contributions
- In kind contributions promote national interests and commitment
- In cash contributions could be used to ensure the machine gets built – a question remains how to control contingency costs?
- *Just return* may be too restrictive to ensure ITER can be built on time and on budget cost effectively
- How many levels of management of a given package are ideal? Limit to a small number; keep tech. experts close to the project
- Voted for hybrid scenario 3 with 16 votes leaning for a majority in kind and 12 votes leaning for a majority in cash

How should we rate our participation in packages/activities (metric)?

- 1) How does the activity position the US for research on ITER?
- 2) Is the proposed activity or package “cost-effective” from the perspective of ITER-value/dollar?
- 3) Is this activity’s area one of US relative strength or leverage?
- 4) What does the activity contribute to the US fusion program?
- 5) Does the activity enhance the fusion-relevant capability of US industry?
- 6) Is the activity an opportunity for US industry?
- 7) Does the activity contribute to the development of the US fusion workforce?

How should we rate our participation in packages/activities (metric)?

- Is US participation in a given package going to make ITER better?
- Industry is still undervalued in this community and will be needed as secondees to manage and build such a big project
- Run-time will be awarded “on the basis of merit, taking into account the level of contribution of the parties”
- The US has a weak negotiating position because of its small contribution equal to that of China
- Need to discuss the metrics in the context of the overall goals and objectives of US involvement in ITER

Other topics discussed

- We should include as part of our negotiating strategy American people at high levels in ITER
- Concern that there is still is no increase in the base program for the foreseeable future but only optimism that given the President's initiative the funding will eventually come
- “Majority rule and minority rights” should be part of the negotiations
- We should push for a higher contribution in ITER “Aim high or stay at home!”
- Need a structure where there can be two-way communication between our negotiators and the fusion community

Next Steps . . .

- Such meetings are beneficial. Similar meetings should precede each negotiating meeting
- Topics for succeeding meetings should be whatever is on the table for the next negotiating meeting
- Need for more industry involvement – follow on forum for industry being considered; more engineering participation
- Need more focused, real working meetings
- Need advanced notice and preparation and written output