

March 15, 2021

To: Angela Chambers, Manager, US DOE Nuclear Criticality Safety Program (NCSP)

From: D. G. Erickson, Chair, US DOE NCSP Criticality Safety Support Group (CSSG)

Subject: CSSG Tasking 2021-02 Response

In Tasking 2021-02, the CSSG was directed to provide a review of all FY2022 NCSP Proposals. All proposals, including all current and future projects, were included in the review scope. The entire CSSG participated in the review. The primary effort occurred during the CSSG meeting held in conjunction with the annual Technical Program Review in February.

The final CSSG rankings of the FY22 NCSP Proposals are attached. (Note: The final rankings may not directly align with the presented order (Column L) or the Column J Yes/No based on CSSG discussion and individual ranking adjustments made based on the various discussions.)

The solution reactor (FY 22-11) falls within the top rankings. The CSSG believes recommendations from the SOCRATES report should be addressed as part of the final proposal.

As indicated in Column K for Proposal FY22-28, the CSSG recommends reduced NCSP funding at \$100k for FY22 only to help accelerate the project.

In addition, clarification from the Program is required as regards “baseline support funding” for AM and ND. Without clarification, it is difficult for the CSSG to determine what proposals fall within that baseline and what proposals should be considered outside that baseline.

As in the past, the following scoring matrix was utilized, with each CSSG member providing their score for each proposal. The results are provided in the attached spreadsheet.

Rank	
1	(High)
2	(Moderate)
3	(Low)
4	(Never)

Table 1 Scoring Matrix

- The average of all scores was rolled into the CSSG Ranking in Column L.
- The rankings were color coded from Green (High) to Red (Low).
- Column J provides a “Yes/No” assessment following discussion within the CSSG.
- The spreadsheet also contains comments received from the reviewers that may provide feedback to proposal writers.

The attached spreadsheet was reviewed by the entire CSSG and all relevant comments to the CSSG observations were addressed and incorporated into the final report.

The CSSG is available to answer any questions that may arise while working with the provided results.

cc:

CSSG Members

D. G. Bowen

M. Henley

Attachment (as a separate file): Spreadsheet with CSSG results: CSSG FY22 NCSP Proposal Ranking.xlsx