

NOvA Cavern construction impact mini-review charge

The construction of the NOvA near detector enclosure in the Minos Underground area will have the potential to substantially impact the the underground area and experiments housed there during the construction period. The PPD division head has requested a mini-review of the proposed work plan and potential impacts to the existing area, be held on month XX, 2011, from XX:00 to XX:00.

This charge requests that the NOvA project and FESS present the current understanding of their construction plans, with a focus on the timeline and mitigations of impacts on the area and experiments housed there at this mini-review. The charge also requests a presentation of the requirements of the underground area operations and existing experiments during the construction period as they relate to potential impacts from the construction. The review chair is Tracy Lundin, who is asked to return a report to the Division head shortly thereafter, covering the following:

- 1) Is there a clear and credible set of requirements from the existing underground area occupants that the project can use to construct an impact mitigation plan?
 - a. If so, are those requirements the minimum set needed to ensure the safety of the personnel who may need to work near the construction site, existing infrastructure and experiment equipment? Are there places where the reviewers feel the presented requirements could be relaxed, to reduce project costs or time, without negatively impacting the integrity of the existing infrastructure and existing experiments?
 - b. If not, what changes are needed to the requirements to make them clear and credible?
- 2) Is there a credible project plan for the cavern construction that mitigates negative impacts on the existing infrastructure and experimental equipment?
- 3) Is the cost/benefit ratio sensible for the proposed mitigations? That is, is the project asked to spend more money or time preventing a potential impact than would be required to repair it in the event it occurred?
- 4) Are there potential problems with the plan that have not been addressed?