



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science

# ***FES Brief Update***

**E.J. Synakowski**

**Associate Director, Office of Science**

**Fusion Energy Sciences**

**Presented to the Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee**

**March 15, 2013**



- **Thank you for your efforts to be here**
- **Thanks so much to John Sarff, Don Rej, and the subpanel, for delivering on a very tight timeline**



- **To date: The federal government is operating under a six-month Continuing Resolution until March 27**
  - The CR enacted funding defines an upper boundary on the total Office of Science (SC) funding: (FY 2012 level)\*1.00612
  - Under the CR, SC has followed the following algorithm in executing:
    - lowest of (1) FY 2012 appropriated budget, (2) Administration's FY 2013 budget request, (3) House mark, and (4) Senate mark
    - SC program offices were given 47% of CR funding for the first six months
      - No-cost extensions have been processed
      - Many first-time new awards under solicitations have been held up
- **A full-year Continuing Resolution is likely**
  - Expected to be enacted on March 22, this will define a CR appropriation level for the full year.
  - The sequestration reductions will then be applied to SC
  - Following this, the individual SC office allocations will be decided



## *Sequestration in FY 2013*

- **Since March 1 sequestration is in effect**
  - The Office of Science budget was reduced by \$245M overall. In our planning, we are assuming levels about 5% lower than the FY2013 overall Administration request
  - There is an ongoing assessment of impacts in the field
  - When the final appropriation is in hand, a budget approach including sequestration will be finalized
  - The effects of sequestration will be broad
- **Dr. Brinkman (SC-1) gave testimony to the HEWD Sub-committee on March 5**
  - This hearing was mostly concerned with the impacts of sequestration (since the FY 2014 budget request has not yet been published)
  - His written testimony is available at: [http://science.energy.gov/~media/sc-1/pdf/2013/030513\\_Brinkman\\_SEWA.pdf](http://science.energy.gov/~media/sc-1/pdf/2013/030513_Brinkman_SEWA.pdf)



- **Concerning sequestration**

- *“There will be impacts to our programs, facilities and construction projects that affect not just the progress of the science we steward, but also the everyday lives of the researchers, institutions, and business we support.”*

- **Impact on Fusion Energy Sciences**

- *“In the Fusion Energy Sciences, sequestration will impact both domestic research facilities and funding for U.S.-made hardware for the international ITER project. We are still assessing the proper balance of reductions in these two areas. Funding levels for ITER below the FY 13 Budget request will impact our ability to meet US hardware delivery dates in support of the ITER construction schedule.”*

- **Conclusion**

- *“Overall, the impacts to facilities operations at our laboratories will have an impact on university and private sector research. Over 25,000 scientists nationwide, and across many fields, rely on Office of Science user facilities for their research. While the impact is difficult to quantify, the scientific progress of many researchers will be slowed by user facility budget reductions.”*



## ***FY 2014 federal budget***

- **The release of the FY 2014 Administration budget request has been significantly delayed**
  - By law, supposed to be published on the first Tuesday of February
  - Final pass-back on SC budget levels was received from OMB on March 1
  - Anticipate that Congress will receive the President's budget on April 8.
  
- **Despite the present constraints**, the Office of Science is proceeding with the development of a new prioritized list of scientific facilities for the next decade
  - With the criteria of (1) world-leading capabilities and (2) technical readiness
  - We welcome the report of the FESAC subcommittee, and sincerely thank its members—including John Sarff (chair) and Don Rej (vice-chair)—for working on this charge very expeditiously