

## RSVP/E949 Review Charge

DOE ONP Charge Document of November 24, 2003

United States Government

Department of Energy

# memorandum

DATE: November 24, 2003

REPLY TO:  
ATTN OF: Office of Science

SUBJECT: DOE Review of the Rare Symmetry Violating Processes Project Activities at Brookhaven National Laboratory

TO: Daniel Lehman, SC-81

I would like to request that your office conduct a review to assess the impact of the proposed Rare Symmetry Violating Processes (RSVP) project on the current Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) activities at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL).

As you know, the Office of Science (SC) Nuclear Physics (NP) program supports the operations of the RHIC facility at BNL. The National Science Foundation (NSF) is proposing to construct and operate two experiments, the RSVP project, that would utilize the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS) facility which is the injector for and an integral component of the RHIC facility. The SC Nuclear Physics program welcomes the opportunity to make available the capabilities of its facilities for meritorious non-NP activities, as long as these activities do not have a negative impact on the facility's ability to successfully carry out the primary mission for which it is funded.

A Memorandum of Understanding between NSF and DOE is in preparation to define the scope and the roles and responsibilities of the agencies. The high scientific merit and priority of RSVP have been ascertained and well documented by peer-review, including the NSF National Science Board. The NSF proposal includes funding to construct and commission these experiments, including the incremental operating costs for their research program. In order to proceed, the Nuclear Physics program needs to understand the impacts related to mutual compatibility of the construction, commissioning and operations of RSVP and RHIC's nuclear physics mission, both short- and long-term.

In this context, I request that your office conduct a review of these impacts. In particular, the review committee should assess the risks and impacts (both positive and negative) of the proposed RSVP construction project and RSVP operations on the RHIC accelerator complex and RHIC nuclear physics program at BNL, including other ongoing work-for-others activities that utilize the RHIC accelerator complex such as the NASA Space Radiation Laboratory. This assessment should include NSF expectations of beam time for the RSVP program and identify the incremental costs to NSF for this running time.

I have asked Jim Hawkins of my office to work with you on this review. I would like the review to take place by the end of January 2004 and would appreciate receiving your committee's report within 60 days of the review's conclusion.

[SIGNED]

Dennis G. Kovar  
Associate Director of the Office of Science  
for Nuclear Physics

cc: Tom Kirk, BNL  
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