

RESOLUTION

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL HIGH MAGNETIC FIELD LABORATORY (NHMFL) AT FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS, the National Science Board (the Board) has strongly endorsed the principle that all expiring awards are to be recompeted, and that there should be full and open competition for the operations awards for major facilities that have reached sustainable operations;

WHEREAS, the Board's recompetition policy is intended to ensure that the best interests of the research community and taxpayers are well served, and includes language acknowledging that it will rarely be in the best interests of U.S. science and engineering research and education not to recompete;

WHEREAS, the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory (NHMFL) is a technical and scientific success, with a 2013 National Research Council report calling it "the leading facility in the world for providing researchers, and others, access to the highest magnetic fields while working at the forefront of developing magnet technology for future users¹";

WHEREAS, the 1989 solicitation for a new high magnetic field laboratory required significant cost-sharing by proposing institutions, and the resulting NHMFL comprises significant infrastructure and equipment that are neither owned nor controlled by NSF;

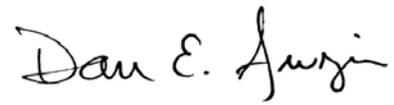
WHEREAS, the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences has determined (NSB-CPP-2015-3) that there are good prospects for an evolution of magnet technology over the next decade that make renewal of current management a prudent course, and that a recompetition at this time would likely cost the Foundation hundreds of millions of dollars;

WHEREAS, the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences is planning a renewal process based on rigorous review by technical experts and facility managers;

WHEREAS, the Board believes that it is in the best interest of U.S. science and engineering to renew rather than recompete the NHMFL award;

¹ [High Magnetic Field Science and Its Application in the United States: Current Status and Future Directions](#)

RESOLVED, that the National Science Board authorizes the Director, at her discretion, to provide to the Board for its consideration a renewal of the award for the operation and management of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan E. Arvizu". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "D".

Dan E. Arvizu
Chairman