

JRS

JLPEC/A6

RUTHERFORD LABORATORY

AERE

JOINT LASER PROJECT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting No 6: 2.00 p.m. Wednesday 14 May 1975, Director's Conference Room, R1, Rutherford Laboratory

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the previous meeting (JLPEC/M5)
2. Matters arising
3. Letter of Intent to establish the Joint Laser Centre (JLPEC/P6 (revised)) JTW
4. Experimental and diagnostic equipment for 1975/6 (JLPEC/P7) PRW/CW
5. JLP Possible Sites (JLPEC/P8) WML
6. Proposed staffing structure (JLPEC/P9) CW/PRW
7. Preliminary report on tender action for lasers MS/CW/PRW oral
8. Consultations with staff LCWH/WML oral
9. Any other business
10. Next meeting

7 May 1975

J R Smith (RL)
M H Woods (AERE)

STAFF IN CONFIDENCE

JLPEC/M5

RUTHERFORD LABORATORY

AERE

JOINT LASER PROJECT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held on 14 May 1975

Present Dr. W.M. Lomer - Chairman
Dr. L.C.W. Hobbis
Mr. J. Jenkins
Mr. M. Smith
Dr. C. Whitehead
Dr. P.R. Williams
Mr. J.T. Wright
Dr. J.R. Smith)
Mr. M.H. Woods) Secretariat

ACTION 1.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (JLPEC/M5)

1.1 The committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 1975.

2.0 MATTERS ARISING

2.1 Para 2.4. Dr. Lomer reported that Mr. Fenning would mention the Laser Project at the next convenient meeting with the trade unions but would not go into details until the project had been approved.

JJ/JTW 2.2 Para 3.2. Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Wright undertook to present a revised operating costs statement to the June or July meetings.

2.3 Para 3.3. Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Wright also undertook to provide a sample accounts statement on the same time scale.

2.4 Para 7.3. Actions by Dr. Williams and Dr. Whitehead had been carried out; Dr. Pease and Dr. Whitehead had received letters of thanks from Dr. Brueckner.

3.0 LETTER OF INTENT TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT LASER CENTRE (JLPEC/P6 REVISED)

3.1 The committee had before them a revised statement of intent drawn up by Mr. Wright in the light of points made at the previous meeting. Dr. Hobbis said that care should be taken to define who were the parties to the agreement; this would be determined by the division of responsibilities between London Offices and laboratories.

3.2 After discussion it was agreed that the statement of intent should show that a legal agreement covering finance, ownership,

and disposal of assets (including disposal and termination) would be prepared for signature by the SRC and the AEA; it should also show that detailed arrangements covering the use of the facility, security, ownership of results and procedures for reviewing the operation of the JLC were in the course of preparation for signature by the two laboratories. Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Wright were invited to produce an agreed final version of the statement of intent for Dr. Hobbis and Dr. Lomer. Dr. Hobbis and Dr. Lomer would then confirm with their respective London offices that the statement was suitable for transmission to DES and Department of Energy respectively.

JJ/JTW

LCWH/WML

3.3 Dr. Whitehead suggested that before matters were further formalised it was time to consider whether Joint Laser Centre was an appropriate title. After discussion, it was agreed that Joint Laser Centre should stand as a short title and Dr. Whitehead was invited to suggest a full title which would accurately represent the project's functions.

CW

4.0 PRELIMINARY REPORT ON TENDER ACTION FOR LASERS

4.1 Dr. Whitehead reported that replies had been received from Quantel, Cilas and GE. Quantel had tendered only for the 100 GW system. He distributed a summary showing the costs of the systems proposed by the 3 companies. An analysis of the tenders showed that on financial grounds the most economical systems would be provided by the purchase of a Quantel 100 GW and Quantel FE plus GE amp. He said that the GE team were in the country at the moment and discussions with them were taking place. These were leading him and Dr. Williams to have misgivings about the GE FE specifications so that in the context of the preliminary assessments, the systems which were financially desirable were also likely to prove technically the most desirable too. The committee noted that the option of Quantel lasers plus GE amp at a total of £1.675M was £135K above the estimate (including contingency) or £365K above the basic estimate. Dr. Lomer suggested that although some of the cost above the estimate was obviously due to inflation, there remained a difference in the region of £200K which should be examined.

JJ/JTW

4.2 The committee invited Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Wright to make an assessment of increases due to inflation/exchange rate changes which it would be valid to claim over and above the original basic estimate of £1.31M. It further invited Dr. Whitehead and Dr. Williams to identify items covered by the quotation which were not included when preparing the estimate and to report on any points in the technical specification tendered which did not fully meet the required specification.

CW/PRW

4.3 Mr. Smith said that J.K. Lasers, a British company, now wished to tender for the small laser. The committee agreed that they should be allowed to do so and Mr. Smith undertook to send them the preamble and technical specification documents.

MS

4.4 Dr. Whitehead said that GE would require a 50% down payment

followed by payments for items as they were delivered. The committee agreed that it was too early to concern itself in any detail with the spend profile at this stage in view of the still early state of negotiations on the tenders. It agreed therefore that the originally stated spend profile should still be considered valid, although starting later, until further information from suppliers was sufficiently firm to permit a re-assessment. It hoped the Quantel position would be clearer by the June meeting.

5.0 EXPERIMENTAL AND DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT REQUIRED IN 1975/76 (JLPEC7)

5.1 The committee considered a list of experimental and diagnostic equipment drawn up by Dr. Williams and Dr. Whitehead. Dr. Williams pointed out that the list had been drawn up before any negotiations with GE. It assumed a stand alone 100 GW laser and the ability to do physics with it by the end of the year. In fact, GE were offering to compress the delivery programme on the 1.5 TW laser and this could result in a large diagnostic spend in the first year.

CW/PRW

5.2 In view of the uncertainty concerning the order of delivery, the committee noted the paper but deferred active consideration of it. It invited Dr. Whitehead and Dr. Williams to prepare a list associated with the commissioning of the 1.5 TW laser and invited them to give thought to the facilities which could be offered to university users depending upon the order of delivery of lasers. In this connection, it noted that there would also be a university input to the list of required equipment.

6.0 POSSIBLE SITES FOR JOINT LASER PROJECT (JLP-EC8)

6.1 The committee had before them a note by Dr. Lomer setting out the possibilities for siting the Joint Laser Project. Dr. Hobbs said that the SRC had publicised its proposed arrangements for the regrouping of the Atlas facilities. These showed that the Atlas Laboratory would cease to exist as a separate entity but no decision had yet been made concerning the use of the existing Atlas building. It was therefore not possible to make any plans which involved its use for the Laser Project.

6.2 Dr. Lomer said that Harwell Management had expressed a weak preference for the most north-easterly of the 4 sites under discussion but would accept a choice for a site adjacent to the Atlas Laboratory as equally valid. The problem with the latter site would be the availability of expansion space which, if the Atlas building were not available, would involve building beyond the bus park. The committee noted the position, deciding that it was premature to make any firm choice. Dr. Williams said that in the meantime plans would go ahead to make vibration measurements.

7.0 STAFF STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION (JLPEC/P9)

7.1 Introducing the paper which he and Dr. Whitehead had written Dr. Williams said that in contrast to JLP-EC5, which had presented staffing on a functional basis, the paper before the committee

set out the proposed line management organisation of the project as foreseen after 2 years of existence.

7.2 The committee noted that the paper represented a stage of evolution of planning the project and that it showed how the facility would be managed rather than how users would be integrated into it.

8.0 NEXT MEETING: 10 a.m. Wednesday, 18th June.

M.H. Woods
AERE Harwell

5 June 1975

Action Sheet

JLPEC/M6

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Action</u>
Secretary	M5/2.1 ✓	Retain "Consultations with Staff" on future agendas.
JJ/JTW	M6/2.2	I Prepare revised operating cost statement for the June or July meeting.
JJ/JTW	M6/2.3	
JJ/JTW	M6/3.2 ✓	Draft final version of Statement of Intent.
LCWH/WML	M6/3.2 ✓	Clear Statement with respective London Offices.
CW	M6/3.3 ○	Draft a full title for the Project.
JJ/JTW	M6/4.2 ✓	Assess increases to be claimed in addition to the original basic £1.31M estimate.
CW/PRW	M6/4.2	Identify quoted items which were not accounted for in preparing the estimate.
CW/PRW	M6/4.2	Identify points in the tendered specifications which did not meet the required specification.
MS	M6/4.3 ✓	Send J.K. Lasers preamble and specification.
CW/PRW	M6/5.2	Prepare list of equipment to be associated with the 1.5 TW laser.
CW/PRW	M6/5.2	Consider facilities to be made available to university users.