

Dear Colleagues-

On July 22, 2002, I announced the OneSC Project to realign the Office of Science (SC) Headquarters and Field structure in order to streamline and improve management. This Project reflects the changes envisioned by the President's Management Reform Agenda (PMA) and directly supports the PMA objective to manage government programs more economically and effectively.

Key objectives of this Project included direct communication between the Director of Science and the Site Office Managers located at SC laboratories, minimizing the number of layers within levels throughout SC, streamlining decision making processes, clarifying lines of authority, and making more efficient use of resources.

On January 23, 2003, the OneSC Project Team presented a preliminary proposal for a restructured SC tailored to meet the goals of the PMA. We spent several hours discussing their proposal, which I am continuing to consider with the aid of my Principal Deputy, Deputy Director for Operations, and Chief of Staff. There are several additional aspects that I have asked the OneSC Team to develop further, along with refining other parts of the proposal. We will have additional discussions about these aspects.

As part of my consideration of this proposal, I plan to consult with the SC Executive Steering Committee. Once I have concluded that we have an approach to restructuring that is sound, complete, and right for SC, coordination will begin with our union leadership and the Office of Management, Budget, and Evaluation. Ultimately we will seek the approval of the Deputy Secretary. This process may take some time, so that I cannot give you a firm prediction of our schedule. I am hopeful, however, that I can announce the details of our new structure soon. At that time I look forward to discussing its implementation with you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Raymond L. Orbach
Director
Office of Science