

2/6/91

Session Name: cvax

To: PVANDENB
Subj: LIGO

Enter your message below. Press CTRL/Z when complete, or CTRL/C to quit:
Terry Sauvain called again. LIGO is obviously not an insignificant issue. I only told Terry that I had discussed LIGO with you and that NRAO would consider seriously what it would do. He would hear.

Meanwhile, these are my notes:

- 1) Terry told Barbara, Byrd's Chief of Staff, he (Terry) was not going to force NRAO to do it, but Barbara said encourage them.
- 2) Maybe the only way to get LIGO at all is for Byrd to intercede. Congress has to cut \$\$millions and billions. If Byrd asks Terry what line items to cut, things for WV get protected.
- 3) Forge this crap about peer review. Terry wants advice. Advise him as a politician. If we wait on peer review, WV would get nothing. Tell Vanden Bout that we would never have gotten a telescope over here if we had waited for peer review.
- 4) Sauvain talked with Bye today about LIGO in WV.
- 5) Don't let the March 1 deadline pass without doing anything. All Terry can ask is for a credible application.

Most of the statements above are direct quotes. I'm only feeding you the raw data as I receive it. This also helps me keep a record.

I'll call from Sterling.



NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY

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February 8, 1991

Dr. R. E. Vogt
Galtach/MIT Laser Interferometer
Gravitational Wave Observatory Project
102-33 E Bridge Laboratory
Pasadena, CA 91125

Dear Robbie:

I have been encouraged to consider submitting a proposal for Green Bank WV as a LIGO site. Before doing so, however, I need to have clarification regarding one of the requirements listed in your announcement (November 19, 1990 issue of the Commerce Business Daily).

You state there, under item 10, that: "Costs to be paid by the LIGO project for all site preparation work required to provide a suitable graded base for foundations and roads (including provisions for drainage and erosion control) and utility connections (power, water, sewer, telephone) may not exceed the budgeted cost of \$2,500,000 per site." Is this a stringent requirement, a so called "show stopper"?

I ask because, as you will recall, your January 31, 1989 report to the NSF on the feasibility of Green Bank as a LIGO site states that the grading and associated costs for the two alignment possibilities would be \$12.4M for the one that far exceeds your current requirement of 40 feet maximum elevation between the vertex and either end, and \$23.2M for the other which meets the tilt limit. Both are sufficiently in excess of the present stated requirement limit (\$2.5M) to raise the question as to whether a proposal based upon them would necessarily be considered as non-responsive.

I would appreciate your earliest possible written reply.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Vanden Bout
Director

PVB/J

From: CVAX::GSEIELST 6-FEB-1991 17:01
To: PVANDENB
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