



The Secretary of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

August 13, 1999

*Sent to Douglas
Hitlin
Luth*

Dr. Burton Richter
Director
Stanford Linear Accelerator Center
Stanford University
P. O. Box 4349
Stanford, California 94309

Dear Dr. Richter:

Congratulations to you, the U.S. team, and to our partners from nine different countries on the dedication of the BaBar Detector. You brought this detector into operation on schedule and within budget, an accomplishment that could not have been achieved without the dedication and support of all of the nearly 600 physicists from 85 institutions who collaborated on this endeavor. This effort is a model of successful international collaboration in science.

I commend you and your senior management for creating an environment that nurtured this multilab partnership of the Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center. I would also like to extend my appreciation and thank you for a job well done to Dr. David Hitlin, the Spokesperson for the collaboration, who was instrumental in transforming the widespread international collaboration into an effective construction team, to Dr. Jonathan Dorfan and Dr. Vera Luth, who had responsibility for onsite construction management, and to the members of the collaboration.

SLAC is one of our Nation's premier high-energy physics laboratories, a world leader in electron-positron physics, and the site of discoveries that have led to three Nobel prizes. The completion of the BaBar Detector marks the beginning of the B-Factory scientific program, and the continuation of this tradition of excellence in science. BaBar will help us to answer some of the most profound questions about the nature of matter and energy and chart a new course of discovery for the next generation of scientists collaborating at SLAC.

So today, as you celebrate the promise of this proud accomplishment and anticipate the next chapter of discovery in particle physics, we commend you, we thank you, and we wish you every future success.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Richardson



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