

United States
Department of Energy

Secretary's Award of Excellence

Presented to:

The Office of Science's Linac Coherent Light Source (LCLS) Project

For demonstrating exceptional results in completing this \$420 million project. The LCLS is the world's first X-ray Free Electron Laser and opens a new research frontier in the area of imaging ultra-fast, ultra-small, single molecule dynamics. Project leadership set the tone early, clearly defining roles and responsibilities, identifying key research and development activities and a comprehensive risk mitigation strategy that allowed the project to maintain its cost and schedule baseline. Early investments were made in critical systems and a systems engineering approach was utilized to address technical requirements. Utilizing a phased Accelerator Readiness Review process, the project seamlessly transitioned from construction to commissioning and operations. Technical systems were commissioned and fine tuned as construction was completing, enabling the LCLS facility to produce the first electron beam within one day, and the first X-ray light within two hours, of commissioning – exceeding expectations of users, providing unprecedented scientific capabilities, and transforming matter and energy research at the atomic scale. The project team is to be commended for their excellent performance.

Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy

March 2011