

United States
Department of Energy

Secretary's Improvement Award

Presented to:

The National Nuclear Security Administration's National Ignition Facility (NIF) Project and Laser Demonstration Program

The NIF team demonstrated incredible dedication and ingenuity in implementing a recovery of the project following its initial difficulties in 2000 and tremendous skill over the last nine years in successfully executing to the revised baseline. The project was completed under the \$3.5 billion budget, and satisfaction of all performance criteria was confirmed on March 6, 2009, three weeks ahead of scheduled project completion. Since that time, the NIF has consistently demonstrated outstanding reliability and availability, enabling research that is well beyond the capability of previously existing facilities. The NIF project team, its partners, and subcontractors have built a flagship facility that uniquely enables the Department of Energy to carry out its mission of assuring the safety, security, and reliability of the nuclear stockpile without underground nuclear testing.

Dr. Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy

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