

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SENATORS SCHUMER, CLINTON AND REP. TIM BISHOP APPLAUD  
BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LAB**  
*Lawmakers Vow to Fight Hard to Fully Fund Important Scientific Research*

Washington— New York Senators Charles Schumer and Hillary Clinton and Congressman Tim Bishop applauded the President's Fiscal Year 2008 (FY '08) budget proposal for Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) in Upton. The budget contains significant funding to continue operations for the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) and a massive increase in the budget for the National Synchrotron Light Source II (NSLS II). The budget proposal is subject to congressional approval later this year.

The budget proposal comes on the heels of an announcement from the Department of Energy's Office of Science that it will fully fund the RHIC for Fiscal Year 2007 (FY '07) and provide significant funding to NSLS II. The lawmakers noted that they will fight hard to fully fund operations at the Lab and are optimistic about prospects in the new Congress.

"This is terrific news for BNL and I'd like to thank Office of Science Director Raymond Orbach for promptly responding to our request and acknowledging the significant impact Brookhaven's programs have on our nation and on Long Island," said Senator Schumer. "This funding allows Brookhaven to continue its national reputation as a leading scientific research institution, while remaining a vital part of Long Island's economy.

"This is definitely a bright light in the President's Budget," Senator Clinton said. "This has been a long fight but I am pleased that the President's Budget includes the funding that Brookhaven National Lab needs. We will now work to ensure that these funds are approved by Congress so the lab's important research can continue, as can Long Island's involvement in cutting edge scientific research and development."

"This is a blueprint to keep Brookhaven Lab as a world-class institution for the foreseeable future," Congressman Bishop said. "I am optimistic that this Congress will not only fund these projects, but will do so in a timely manner."

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The FY '08 budget proposes \$65 million for the NSLS II. This project, which is vital to the future of BNL, is a new state-of-the-art electron storage ring designed to deliver world-leading intensity and brightness. It will enable the study of material properties and functions, particularly materials at the nanoscale, at a level of detail and precision never before possible, providing the world's finest capabilities for x-ray imaging.

The FY '08 budget proposes \$146.5 million for the operations of the RHIC. This would support an estimated 30-week (91 percent utilization) running schedule. The RHIC is a 2.4-mile superconductor that accelerates gold ions to nearly the speed of light and causes collisions that recreate the 'Big Bang', offering a glimpse into the birth of the universe during its first few microseconds.

BNL is only now figuring out its FY '07 budget, because only 2 of the 11 Appropriations bills were signed into law last year. As a result, the House of Representatives last week passed a Continuing Resolution to fund operations through September 30. It is expected that the Continuing Resolution will pass the Senate by mid February. The lawmakers were optimistic that this Congress will adhere to normal budget schedules. The FY '07 funding approved by the House contains \$149 million for continuing operations for the RHIC and \$19 million for NSLS II.

Brookhaven National Laboratory, established in 1947 and located in Upton, Long Island, is operated by Brookhaven Science Associates for the United States Department of Energy. Brookhaven's staff of over 3,000 scientists, engineers and technicians specializes in nuclear physics research and has received an impressive six Nobel Prizes for their groundbreaking work. Brookhaven Lab's programs include RHIC, the National Synchrotron Light Source (NSLS), NSLS II, and the Center for Functional Nanomaterials (CFN).

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