Creating a Star on Earth: the National Ignition Facility

Dr. Ed Moses, Director of the National Ignition Facility

Wednesday, July 15, 2009
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Livermore Public Library, Civic Center, Craft Room

The National Ignition Facility (NIF), the world's largest, highest-energy laser, is right here in the Tri-Valley at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In May, after more than a decade of construction, the stadium-sized NIF was dedicated and is preparing for the first ignition experiments in 2010. If successful, NIF will generate temperatures and pressures found in nature only in the center of stars and giant planets. NIF's 192 giant lasers will be focused on research to enhance national security, advance basic science, and explore the possibility of developing nuclear fusion as a sustainable, carbon-free, minimal-waste source of energy with the potential to revolutionize the world's energy future. Dr. Ed Moses, NIF's director, will offer a glimpse into the future of one of the nation's foremost science projects.

Science Chats are open to the public. We encourage you to bring your family, friends and an open mind — come ready to learn and ask questions. Questions? Please contact Carrie Martin, LLNL Public Affairs Office, at 925-424-4175, martin59@llnl.gov.