

Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY

Member of the Helmholtz-Association

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Hamburg

Prof. Maria Orlowska
Secretary of State
Ministry of Science and Higher Education
Hoza 20
00-529 Warsaw
Poland

15 February 2008

Dear Professor Orlowska,

For many years the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY has excellent scientific collaborations with many institutes in Poland, among them the Soltan Institute for Nuclear Studies, IPJ. These long term relations have been very beneficial for both sides and are an excellent basis for future joint projects.

With this letter I would like to express my strong support for the Polish Free Electron Laser Project POLFEL which is being proposed by the IJP. Let me summarise briefly the main reasons:

Free Electron Lasers (FEL) are sources of coherent radiation of unprecedented properties, enabling time-resolved analyses of the structure of matter and materials in physics, chemistry, biology, material science, environmental science and medicine. They will help us to understand processes in living cells and chemical reactions, which will be of major importance for basic as well as for applied science, leading clearly to a possible long term impact on high-tech industry. Therefore POLFEL might become a key element for a Technology Park where scientific results are transferred to applications.

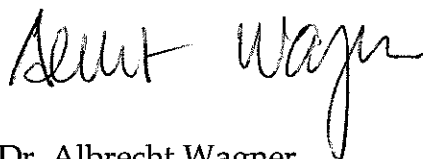
The outstanding scientific potential of this new type of light source has convinced 14 countries to join the European XFEL project in Hamburg, among them Poland as a strong partner. It has also led to national projects on a smaller scale, targeted at experiments at longer wavelengths, requiring smaller devices, such as POLFEL.

The POLFEL project would be based on the XFEL technology which has been an international development, with strong Polish contributions. POLFEL would very much profit from a strong link with the XFEL project through common orders, joint use of test equipment and by sharing the gained experience. In turn DESY and the XFEL project would benefit from POLFEL as a training and R&D centre. POLFEL would enable Polish scientists to prepare themselves to fully exploit the potential of the XFEL.

In summary, a strong link between DESY, its present FEL facility FLASH, the European XFEL and POLFEL would generate substantial synergies to the benefit of all participating partners and projects.

With this in mind I strongly support the Polish Free Electron Laser Project POLFEL.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Albrecht Wagner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Prof. Dr. Albrecht Wagner