Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie

Postfach 20 24 53010 Bonn Germany
Auf dem Hügel 69, 53121 Bonn

kmenten@mpifr-bonn.mpg.de
Tel.: +49 (0)228-525297
Fax: +49 (0)228-525435

Dr. Robert A. Eisenstein
Assistant Director for Mathematical and Physical Sciences
The National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22230, USA

April 18, 2000

Dear Dr. Eisenstein,

As Chairman of the ALMA Science Advisory Committee (ASAC), I am writing on behalf of the ASAC to inform you, as Chairman of the ALMA Coordinating Committee (ACC), and your colleagues on the ACC, of the following:

1. The ASAC met on Monday, April 10th, via teleconference to receive the formal presentation of the *Atacama Large Millimeter Array Construction Cost: Draft April 2000* from the ALMA Project management, the ALMA Executive Committee (AEC);
2. It is the unanimous conclusion of the ASAC that, with the scope as described in that document and with a cost of $552M (Y2000 US$) to be shared between the European and American partners, a very ambitious science program will be accomplished with ALMA;
3. The ASAC will continue to work closely and actively with the Project management to ensure that the Project successfully meets its scientific objectives and is built to the cost and schedule to be agreed by the ACC.

Sincerely,

Dr. Karl M. Menten
Chairman, ASAC

cc. ACC Members
ASAC Members
AEC Members