

Dear Colleagues,

the TIC meeting on Oct. 9 (<https://indico.bnl.gov/event/20648/>) has been dedicated to the ZDC. It has been highly informative about the status of the design and studies for this subsystem. It has also made evident the need of urgent effort to progress towards a consolidated design. Here follow the main findings as identified in the meeting of the PTR and the CC WG conveners.

- The requirements for the ZDC need to be summarized in a dedicated set of slides, extracting the existing information from recent published papers and from the YR.

- Concerning the hadron component of the ZDC, the "SiPM-on-tile" approach appears more mature and its performance for neutron detection better understood by simulation studies than the "FOCAL-like" approach, which still has multiple open design options.

- The "FOCAL-like" approach includes electromagnetic calorimeter components by the combined use of two technologies, which makes it complex. The "SiPM-on-tile" approach still needs to integrate an electromagnetic component.

- The SiPM-on-tile design will take advantage of re-use of the STAR absorber and economies of scale with the forward HCAL insert, but will still require additional workforce and groups to be responsible for construction, testing and commissioning.

- ePIC would largely profit of a joint effort of the proponents of the two approaches making use of the "SiPM-on-tile" option for the hadron calorimeter and complementing it with an electromagnetic component adequate to ePIC ZDC requirements.

TIC will discuss again ZDC on a time scale of about a month to follow the progress in the design of the subsystem.

Best greetings, Silvia