

CD-3A:

Approve start of long-lead procurements
 CD-3A items passed final design review
 All interfaces related to them are frozen
 Waiting for ESAAB meeting for authorization

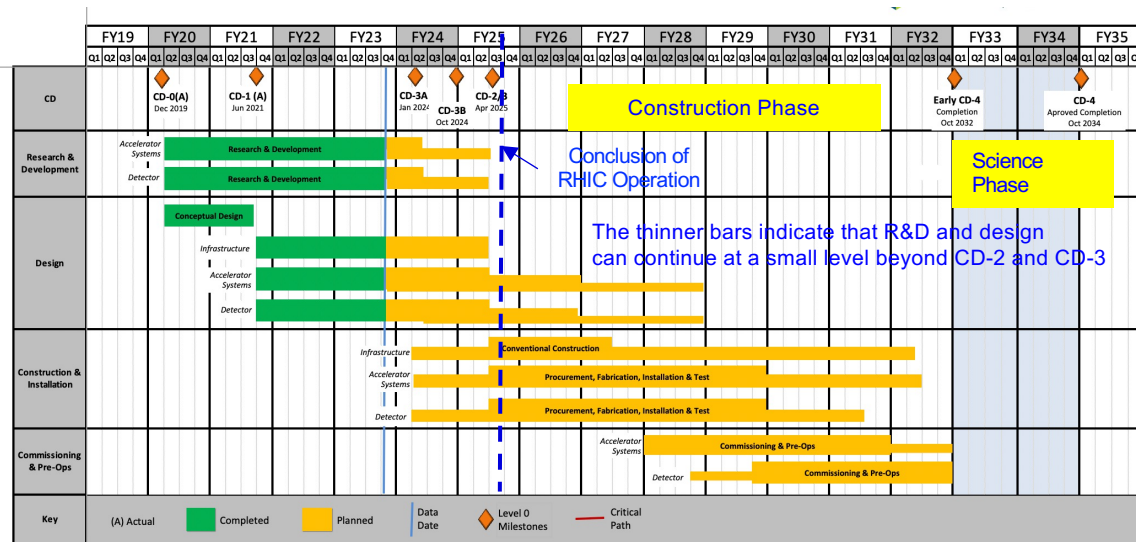
CD-2:

Approve prelim. design for all subdetectors
 Design Maturity: >60%
 Need “pre-”TDR (or draft TDR)
 Baseline project in scope, cost, schedule

CD-3:

Approve final design for all subdetectors
 Design Maturity: ~90%
 Need full TDR

EIC Critical Decision Plan	
CD-0/Site Selection	December 2019 ✓
CD-1	June 2021 ✓
CD-3A	January 2024
CD-3B	October 2024
CD-2/3	April 2025
early CD-4	October 2032
CD-4	October 2034

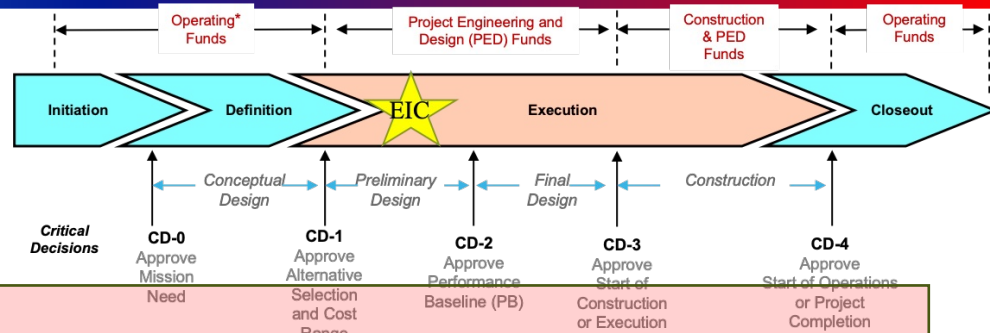


Speculation based on EIC accelerator project status, on still uncertain FY24 and FY25 budget scenarios, and projected RHIC FY24 run:

- CD-3B Approval Dec. 2024
- RHIC operations conclude at end of FY25, in September 2025
- CD-2/3 Approval Dec. 2025, Possibility of CD-3C as needed.

- Design Reviews
 - ✓ PDR2: IR Integration and Auxiliary Detectors – February 12, 2024 – main emphasis on baseline choices and progress
 - PDR1: Tracking Detectors – March 20-21, 2024 – main emphasis on baseline tracking layout, if we are on track and plans
 - PDR2: Electronics/DAQ – May 2024? – continuation of PDR1 to ensure we are on track and show progress
 - PDR: Integration, Infrastructure and Installation – Summer/Autumn 2024? – includes detector support structures
 - PDR2: Particle Identification Detectors – Summer 2024?
 - PDR2: Barrel EM Cal – Summer/Fall 2024 – emphasis on mechanical design & AstroPix readiness
 - FDR: Backward & Forward EM Calorimetry, Barrel & Forward HCAL – Fall 2024
 - PDR2: Polarimetry – timescale TBD (but before CD-2)
 - FDR for any potential CD-3B scope: Magnet Power Supply, perhaps VTRx+/lpGBT, perhaps magnet steel – see NOTE
 - FDR Magnet Power Supply – Spring 2024; Magnet Steel perhaps Summer 2024; VTRx+/lpGBT add ½ day to electronics/DAQ PDR2
- Detector R&D Day – March 25 – check R&D progress and outlook to FY25
- DAC-Meetings 2024 under planning:
 - ~April 2024: Project Status, Baseline Detector, International Engagement, Detector R&D progress (expect 1+ day)
 - ~August 2024: Detector R&D annual review (expect 2 days) – deadline for submission July 1, 2024
- Next ePIC Computing & Software review by host labs – Late Summer 2024?

NOTE: CD-3B for detector will include continuation phases for SiPMs, SciFi, PbWO₄, Forward HCAL. Further scope has to be known essentially now and needs FDRs.



What does 60% design maturity roughly mean:

- 1) One matured from a conceptual design (CD-1) to a preliminary design (CD-2)
- 2) There can still be open E&D questions but no showstoppers
- 3) One needs to have detailed knowledge that one can define the cost and schedule
- 4) The review committee can judge that one will be able to address those open questions by the projected time of CD-3.

What does 90% design maturity roughly mean:

- 1) The design matured to final (CD-3), i.e., there are no open E&D questions
- 2) One can still do design detailing and producing drawings to accompany procurements
- 3) One can still do design validations as found needed during the vendor construction process; for vendor design-build contracts such as the detector solenoid one can still do design updates as needed.

What does this actually mean for us?

- **There is no real urgency with having a pfRICH beam test in Spring 2024 at all**
 - The coming year can be better spent to test the components separately on a bench ...
 - ... and be better prepared for beam tests in 2025+

- Reality check, anyway
 - Only two months left between now and May 1st, but no Fermilab 2024 schedule is available
 - No HRPPDs performance scans can start at BNL until at least end of March
 - Yet four out of five tiles were produced already, and we will know quite something from JLab tests by then
 - HGCROC3 ASIC backplane production is delayed either
 - Yet V0 iteration FPGA bare boards were shipped from HK yesterday (and a first one will be assembled next week)
 - *The two (HRPPDs & ASICs) will not see each other on a bench at least until beginning of April*

- EIC Project can only provide funding for “must have” beam tests
 - Beam test budget needs to be substantially increased (DOE Lab employee salaries!)
 - Hard to justify an “emergency” beam test, given a risk with it being potentially too short (and potentially inconclusive)

Therefore, plans for 2024 / 2025 and beyond

- 2024: activities towards CD-2 and a pre-TDR
 - Vessel and mirror PEDs, aerogel bench tests, HGCROC3 ASIC backplane construction
 - HRPPD bench tests at JLab/BNL/INFN/UoG/Yale, Argonne B-field campaign, INFN ageing studies, etc
 - All sorts of modeling and geometry optimization for CD-2 purposes

- 2025: activities towards CD-2/3 and a TDR
 - Cosmic ray test stand at BNL (?)
 - Beam test #1 in Spring 2025
 - A “partial chain” test with HGCROC3 analog frontend (a proof of principle run; aerogel / mirrors / HRPPDs)
 - All sorts of remaining modeling and PED work (including services) for CD-3 purposes

- 2026+
 - Beam test #2 (**once EICROC electronics is available**)
 - A full chain test (a final word on pi/K separation, imaging+timing performance at once, etc)