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Professor Luciano MAIANI  
Director General  
CERN

Geneva, 30 November 2000

Dear Luciano,

We would like to have on record our view on the procedure which led to the recent decision to close LEP. We consider the following to be serious procedural failings which are inappropriate for an organisation such as CERN:

- **Closed LEPC Meeting of 3 November**

The role of the LEPC in this matter was to review the scientific case for a LEP run in 2001, and to ensure that the LEP experiments and machine were technically able to follow the proposed programme. The experiments committees, such as the LEPC, should not take into account the experimental programmes of other CERN accelerators/storage rings. Inspection of the LEPC Minutes, and information from LEPC members, show that the LEPC considered a LEP run in 2001 to be justified, but that the impact of such a run on LHC prevented the committee from reaching a consensus.

We find it unacceptable that the LEPC departed from the established practice of CERN's experimental committees by allowing consideration of another experimental programme, on which they were not informed, to influence its conclusions.

- **Scientific Policy Committee**

The SPC were consulted by electronic mail or phone and were given little time to form an opinion on this important matter. They had no opportunity to discuss together and, in at least some cases, were not adequately informed; e.g., information on the impact of a LEP extension on the schedule of the LHC was only given on November 13 in an open session of the LHC Machine Advisory Committee.

Here again, this procedure is unacceptable.

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The above departures from normal procedures have created a sense of injustice and have led to bitterness in the LEP community which should have been avoided.

Yours sincerely,

For ALEPH




P. Dorman  
Steering Committee

D. Schlatter  
Spokesman

For DELPHI

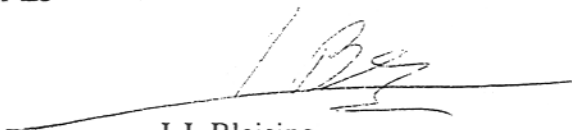


G. Myatt  
Collaboration Board



T. Camporesi  
Spokesman

For L3



J-J. Blaising  
Chairman Management Board  
on behalf of L3 collaboration

For OPAL



D.E. Plane  
Spokesman  
and Collaboration Board

Cc: R. Cashmore /Director of Research  
C. Detraz /Director of Research