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**Developing a Pre-Heat Platform for MagLIF with Z-Beamlet<sup>1</sup>** MATTHIAS GEISSEL, ADAM J. HARVEY-THOMPSON, T.J. AWE, D.E. BLISS, M.E. GLINSKY, Sandia National Laboratories, E.M. CAMPBELL, LLE, University of Rochester, M.R. GOMEZ, E. HARDING, S.B. HANSEN, C.A. JENNINGS, M.W. KIMMEL, P.F. KNAPP, Sandia National Laboratories, S.M. LEWIS, University of Texas at Austin, R.D. MCBRIDE, K. PETERSON, M. SCHOLLMEIER, D.J. SCOGLIETTI, A.B. SEFKOW, J.E. SHORES, D.B. SINARS, G.A. ROCHAU, S.A. SLUTZ, I.C. SMITH, M.R. WEISS, J.L. PORTER, Sandia National Laboratories — Sandia's Magnetized Liner Inertial Fusion Program has put one of the main objectives towards developing standard platform for a 'preconditioned' target, providing a scenario that reproducibly delivers pre-heated fuel.

The majority of this effort has been done at the "Pecos" Target Area using Sandia's Z-Beamlet laser to provide the pre-heat energy, just like for fully integrated MagLIF experiments. The nature and magnitude of Laser-Plasma-Instabilities during this process are particularly important, since they can lead to less energy in the fuel (backscatter processes) or to energy deposition in less desirable areas (filamentation/scatter). We present results for Stimulated Brillouin Backscatter and forward scatter, and show the effect of the laser pulse shape to laser-entrance-hole transmission and blast wave propagation in the fuel.

<sup>1</sup>Sandia is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corp., for the U.S. DOE's Nat'l Nucl. Sec. Admin. under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.

Matthias Geissel Sandia National Laboratories

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