Groundbreaking held for physics research facility

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EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) - Michigan's congressional delegation has broken ground for a $730 million physics research facility at Michigan State University.

U.S. Sens. Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow of Michigan were among those on Monday celebrating the official start of construction on the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams. Levin called the project "another step on the human quest to know more" that will create "tangible progress" in scientific research and national security.

The research facility known as FRIB (EF'-rib) is expected to open sometime between 2020 and 2022. Michigan State won a national competition to host the project in 2008. President Barack Obama has proposed spending $90 million in the coming budget year to keep the project on track.

Backers estimate FRIB will create 5,000 construction jobs and 400 permanent jobs.

Online:
http://www.frib.msu.edu

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