Groundbreaking set for physics research facility

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EAST LANSING, Mich. - A groundbreaking is scheduled for a $730 million physics research facility at Michigan State University.

The school says an event celebrating the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams is planned for Monday morning on the university's East Lansing campus. U.S. Sens. Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow of Michigan are among those expected to attend the event.

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.

Preparation work is underway on the project, which backers have estimated will create 5,000 construction jobs and 400 permanent jobs.