Workers ahead of schedule on nuclear science facility

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EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) - Michigan State University officials say they are ahead of schedule on a nuclear science facility, and the project has been buoyed by federal funding to continue construction.

The Lansing State Journal reports (http://on.lsj.com/1NKoMKZ) the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams is about 10 weeks ahead of schedule. Workers recently began installing technical equipment in the facility that's expected to open between 2020 and 2022.

Democratic U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow toured the facility Tuesday with Michigan State President Lou Anna Simon. Stabenow says the project will provide near-term opportunities for scientists as well as "spin off into things we don't know about yet."

The $100 million in federal funding was included in a spending bill to fund the federal government for the 2016 budget year that was agreed upon last week.

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