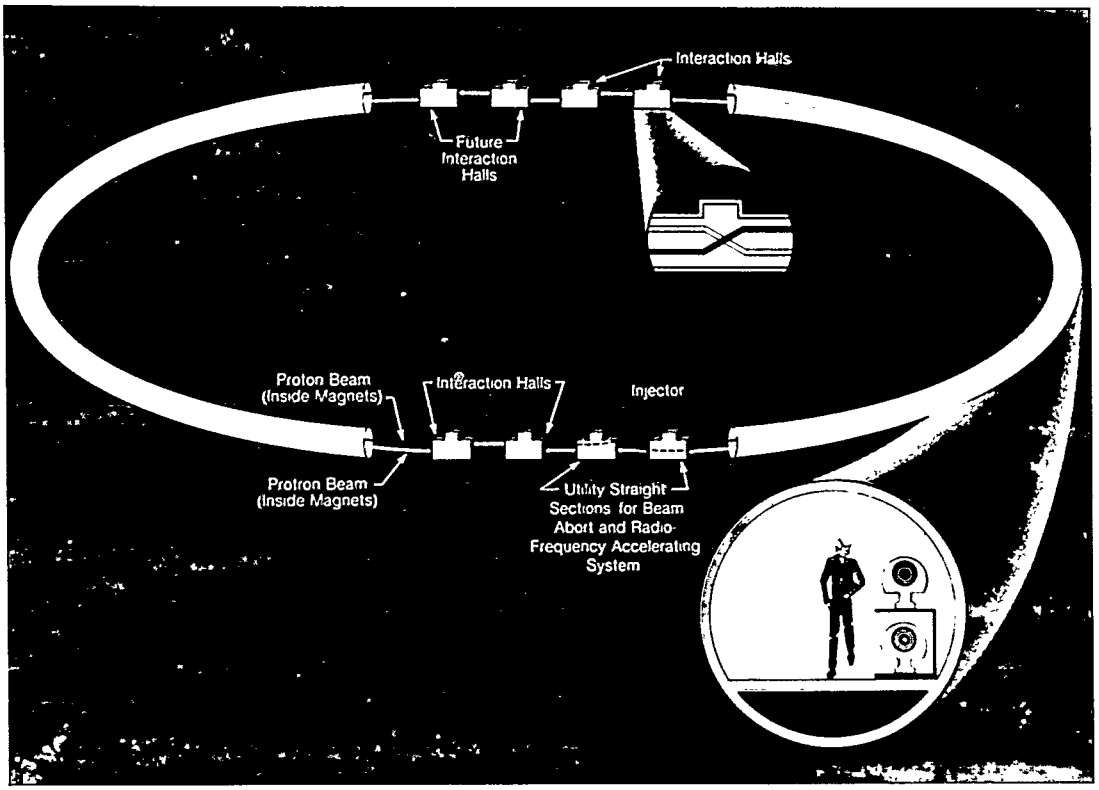
Texas Governor William Clements and Secretary Herrington view an artist's conception of the Superconducting Super Collider.
Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Since the days of the Manhattan Project, the Department of Energy and its predecessors had helped build most of the large particle accelerators constructed in the United States, including the Stanford Linear Accelerator (SLAC) and facilities at Brookhaven National Laboratory and the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. In July 1983 the Department of Energy's High Energy Physics Advisory Panel recommended that the building of a super collider be given the highest priority. Endorsed by the President's science advisor, the project to build the largest and most expensive scientific instrument in history would strain limited research budgets. Nonetheless, the Reagan Administration recognized, as others had before it, that Americans could not maintain their preeminence in high energy physics without support from the Federal Government.

The superconducting super collider would become the world's largest particle accelerator, the basic research tool in high energy physics for studying the nature of matter and energy. Again, the Federal Government would become a patron in opening the frontiers of science. Research at the super collider would not only include study of the fundamental laws that govern the universe but also the exploration of



Artist's conception of the SSC showing the 53 mile circumference tunnel and location of related facilities.
Source: U.S. Department of Energy