



*Your work is worth it.*

October 23, 2006

Dr. William S. Stokes  
NICEATM Director  
NIEHS  
P.O. Box 12233  
MD EC-17  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Dear Dr. Stokes:

As a manufacturer of diets for laboratory animals we are asked to provide products that meet the needs of various types of research. With the increased need for diets to be used in protocols designed to evaluate compounds exhibiting/inhibiting estrogenic activity, it is imperative that a reliable assay be included to assess any possible estrogenic activity that might be in the diet.

CertiChem, Inc. of Austin, Texas has an MCF-7 assay for testing as described above. In order for the research community to maintain validity in their data, we encourage ICCVAM to validate their assay since it has been shown to be reliable, sensitive and accurate in analyzing estrogenic activity in laboratory animal feeds and feed containers.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Regards,

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