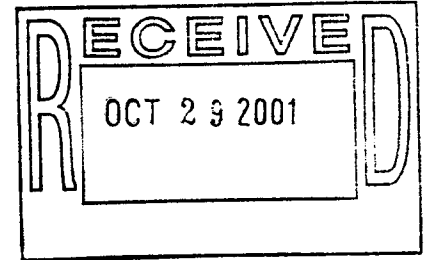


October 23, 2001



Dr. William S. Stokes  
Director, NICEATM (MD EC-17)  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
P.O. Box 12233  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Dear Dr. Stokes:

It is totally inconceivable how self-proclaimed "decent" people will accept the torture of countless animals for the perceived "good" of mankind. This is the height of hypocrisy.

NIEHS should adopt the new non-animal test methods **IMMEDIATELY**. The non-animal test methods have been considered for almost 20 years, and animals should not continue to suffer and die because of bureaucratic inertia.

NIEHS recommends using the non-animal method to set the starting dose for further animal-poisoning tests. While this may reduce the number of animals killed in acute poisoning studies, it does not go far enough. Government agencies should use *in vitro* cell culture tests to **COMPLETELY REPLACE** the use of animals in lethal dose tests.

At a minimum, **ALL** government agencies that currently require the acute animal-poisoning studies should **IMMEDIATELY** incorporate the *in vitro* cell culture method as a transitional means of reducing the number of animals killed and should fully support the use of this method as an eventual **REPLACEMENT** for lethal-dose poisoning studies. In particular, the EPA must immediately incorporate the non-animal cell culture method into its HPV chemical program, as promised in its October 1999 agreement with the animal protection community.

The torture of **ANY** living creature is impossible to justify, no matter how "righteous" and "noble" we think our reasons.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Catherine D. Mizerany".

Catherine D. Mizerany  
P.O. Box 262  
Arnold, MO 63010