

DRAFT

*This probably didn't go out.  
See memo to Bauer of 12/26/74*

Dr. Robert G. Sachs, Director  
Argonne National Laboratory  
9700 South Cass Avenue  
Argonne, Illinois 60439

719194

Dear Bob:

The Commission, in its deliberations on the plutonium study, has approved Argonne's continuation of the study of plutonium excretion by those patients still living until such time as they may de cease provided of course, that these studies are done under full compliance with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare guidelines for human experimentation.

The Commission has discussed the conditions under which a study involving exhumation should be allowed to continue. A special Ad Hoc Committee convened by the Division of Biomedical and Environmental Research to consider only the scientific merits of such a continuation strongly recommended that the study be continued. The Commission agrees with the Committee that the information which could be obtained might be useful, however, it feels that the normal mechanisms available for making judgments on human experimentation should be brought into play. We feel that the Argonne Human Use Committee should thoroughly consider all of the pros and cons of the scientific aspects of the proposed exhumation program in light of the moral, ethical and legal issues that must also be considered. We, therefore, pose no objection to continuation of the exhumation studies provided the Argonne Human Studies Committee, utilizing additional consultants as it feels warranted, approves the continuation and designates the criteria for proceeding under the full constraints imposed by the HEW Guidelines for such studies.

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PROVENANCE

REPOSITORY: OFFICE OF HUMAN RADIATION  
EXPERIMENTS (OHRE)

COLLECTION: PLUTONIUM INJECTION INVESTIGATION  
FILES (OHRE 1)

BOX: 2

FOLDER: PLUTONIUM INJECTIONS - ROCHESTER -  
GEN INFORMATION

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Dr. Robert G. Sachs

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After the Argonne Committee has made its deliberations, the Commission requests that it be provided a copy of its report for Commission files.

Sincerely,

James L. Liverman  
Director, Division of Biomedical  
and Environmental Research

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FORM 0240

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