



ANL 61

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

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April 15, 1974

TO: R. G. Sachs Director of the Laboratory

FROM: R. J. M. Fry *RJM* Chairman of the Review Committee for Research Projects Involving Human Subjects

SUBJECT: Atomic Energy Commission Instructions concerning patients injected with Plutonium

I write in reply to the request from Dr. W. K. Sinclair, received April 12, 1974 concerning the action of the Review Committee for Research Projects Involving Human Subjects on the matter of the Plutonium cases.

In November 1973, Drs. M. V. Nevitt and R. E. Rowland asked my opinion about the communication of results and interpretation of results for assays of plutonium in excreta of two patients of Dr. Waterhouse. As a result of these conversations I requested Dr. Stehney to send me information about the investigations carried out on the so-called Plutonium cases. I enclose that memorandum from Dr. Stehney dated December 14, 1973.

As you can see, this memorandum noted that the studies of the Plutonium cases were being carried out as part of the project, "Effects of Internal Radiation on Humans" for which the revised research protocol was approved by the committee for Research Projects Involving Human Subjects on September 17, 1971. This procedure was considered consistent with the scope of that proposal which "covers medical studies and radioactivity measurements of humans exposed to internal radiation under circumstances beyond our control."

I included this memorandum in the material sent to the members of the Committee for Research Projects Involving Human Subjects prior to the meeting of the Committee held on March 14, 1974.

In March 1974, I also requested Dr. R. E. Rowland to send me copies of the correspondence with Dr. Waterhouse. These were received on March 13, 1974 and copies are enclosed.

At the March committee meeting the report from the Center for Human Radiobiology of the activities for the year 1973 and dated February 1, 1974 and other matters including the Plutonium cases were discussed.

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Dr. Sachs

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April 15, 1974

I enclose a copy of my memorandum to Dr. A. F. Stehney on April 8, 1974 which contains the opinion and request of the committee concerning the Plutonium Cases.

RJMF:dmp

Enclosures: (1) Memorandum from A. F. Stehney, December 14, 1974  
(2) Report from A. M. Brues and A. F. Stehney, February 1, 1974  
(3) Letters and memoranda concerning Dr. Waterhouse  
(4) Memorandum to A. F. Stehney, April 8, 1974

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