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United States Government Department of Energy

memorandum

DATE: June 27, 1984

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REPLY TO ATTN OF: ER-71

SUBJECT: Congressional Investigation into Health and Safety Policies of DOE

TO: Richard A. DuVal, Manager
San Francisco Operations Office

The Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce has announced an investigation into the health and safety policies of the Department of Energy. Initial discussions with staff of the Subcommittee have made it clear that this investigation will be as broad as they deem necessary, and extend from past to present to future policies.

As a first inquiry in the framework of this investigation, the Department has been asked to provide a list of human experimentation projects funded by DOE and its predecessor agencies, going back to the days of the Manhattan Project. Any support received from other agencies for the support of such projects is also to be provided.

I request your full and expeditious cooperation in collecting the required information, if necessary with the assistance of the national and dedicated laboratories and off-site contractors that may have been involved in human experimentation projects. As there is some question as to the definition of the term "human experiments", I would like — as a first approximation that might be expanded in the future — to include experimental use of ionizing radiation and radioactive materials for purposes of treatment of disease, and for determining hazards of such agents to humans (including experiments aimed at providing information necessary to determine such hazards, e.g., those concerning the metabolic behavior of radioactive materials). For the moment, I would like to exclude clinical feasibility studies concerning radiopharmaceutical compounds for medical diagnostic use.

It is important that a first listing be obtained as soon as reasonably possible, and, in any case, <u>not later than late July 1984.</u> The information to be included should be summarized on factsheets, the format of which is attached to this memorandum. As the Chairman of the Subcommittee, Mr. Richard L. Ottinger, has expressed a particular interest in the specific methods for follow-up and long-term tracking of participants in these projects, I would like your special attention to this item, to be summarized under the heading "Follow-up Data" in the Factsheet. In order to provide us with background materials, useful summaries and reports, and significant

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publications related to these projects, I ask you to list such documentation under "References", and to attach copies of particularly informative documents to the Factsheets. You may leave the item "Responsible Government Official(s)" blank, as I intend to identify this/these persons as the Headquarters' Official(s) who had program-management responsibility for the project involved.

I appreciate your personal attention to this request so that we may be most responsive to Mr. Ottinger's inquiry. Dr. J. W. Thiessen, Deputy Associate Director of this Office, may be contacted for further details, if necessary, either by telephone (FTS 233-3153) or by electronic mail (DIALCOM ID DOE670).

J. W. Thiessen

for Charles W. Zdington
Associate Director, Office of
Health and Environmental Research
Office of Energy Research

Attachment

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FACTSHEET HUMAN EXPERIMENTATION

Project Name:

Date Started:
Date Terminated:

Identification:
Principal Investigator(s):

Responsible Government Official(s):

Objective(s) of test:

Short description:

Follow-up data:

References:

Attachment(s):