Department of Energy
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

JUL 29 1998

Richard D. Klausner, M.D.
Director
National Cancer Institute
Department of Health and
Human Services
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Dear Dr. Klausner:

Thank you for your letter of July 14, 1998. I am in full agreement about the need for our two agencies to cooperate to ensure that smooth conduct of radiation health studies.

When we met last on July 24, 1996, we discussed the support my office provides to your organization for the conduct of studies of the health effects of the Chernobyl accident. At that time, I expressed concerns about the slowness of progress of these studies. I was pleased that you were able to make a commitment to identify and hire a management contractor for the Chernobyl studies to facilitate progress of these studies. It is my understanding that a group from Columbia University was selected in the fall of 1997 to perform these management functions.

With this new group in place, we are looking forward to an accelerated rate of progress in the conduct of these important research endeavors. Dr. Faye Austin from your staff and I have kept up close communication during the past 2 years and have addressed issues as they have arisen. As these studies progress, I look forward to working closely with you.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Seligman, M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Health Studies

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