

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

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August 9, 1979

Dr. Michael Parsont, Chief
Radiological Health Standards Branch
Office of Standards Development
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Parsont:

Attached is a copy of the research proposal entitled "Reanalysis of the Tri-state Leukemia Survey Data with Special Reference to the Leukemogenic Potential of Diagnostic X-rays," prepared as a 189. The proposed work covers the concerns previously discussed with Dr. Grahn regarding reevaluation of the leukemogenic effect of low-level radiation and the reexamination of the concept of the existence of susceptible subgroups. I believe you should find this all in order. The Principal Investigator will be identified as Dr. Michael E. Ginevan, who has an excellent background in mathematical statistics, population genetics, and environmental toxicology.

We are submitting this as new work from this Laboratory to be supported by your Agency and, therefore, concurrence in this proposed effort will have to be given by the Chicago Operations Office and the Office of Environment of the Department of Energy. I do not foresee problems in this regard. The Principal Investigator has been with the Laboratory for over a year, and we should also be able to draw upon experienced personnel now working with large computerized data bases.

Let me know if you need any additional information or clarification of any points in the proposal. We are indeed pleased to be able to have this opportunity to do this for your office, as our involvements with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission over the last five years have often served to emphasize the nearly desperate need we have to reexamine some of the existing epidemiological data that have become the subject of controversy. I believe we can view the problems in cold, objective, statistical terms.

Sincerely yours,



Warren K. Sinclair
Associate Laboratory Director for
Biomedical and Environmental Research

WKS/bls

Attach.

cc: Dr. Steven Whitfield, NRC - w/attach. ✓