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Dr. Thomas Mancuso
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Dear Dr. Mancuso:

It has been some time since we communicated with you about an early draft analysis of Hanford occupational mortality experience which you coauthored with Dr. Stewart and Mr. Kneale.

I realize that this must be a very busy time for you in light of the forthcoming congressional hearings and other events related to the analysis.

We, on the staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), continue to be deeply interested in epidemiology studies on the effects of low level ionizing radiation. Currently the results of both the "13th Final Report on the Health and Mortality Study" and the study of Dr. Irvin D. J. Bross, Jr. are of the utmost concern to us.

We are aware of many reviews of the Hanford data, but most of them have been performed by the Department of Energy (DOE) contractors. Because NRC has, as a part of its activities, regulatory responsibilities to protect the health of the public from the effects of ionizing radiation, we are considering an independent analysis of the Hanford mortality data.

Because you, Dr. Stewart, and Mr. Kneale have most of the insight into the data and its processing, and as I understand that Dr. Stewart and Mr. Kneale are in the United States, it seems to me to be a good time for us to meet with all of you to discuss the analysis and the current availability of the data.

In addition, we will need a copy of the Hanford data tape and assistance in its interpretation. We would like to have the data which were used by you, Dr. Stewart, and Mr. Kneale. However, if for some reason these data were unavailable, we could obtain a tape from either Battelle Northwest Laboratories or from Oak Ridge National Laboratories.

We would like to meet with you at your earliest convenience. Please let me know when this would be.

Sincerely,

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TASK NO: 716-8

Michael A. Parson
Environmental Standards Branch
Office of Standards Development

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