



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive - MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 402-2803

January 9, 2008

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3368-01 [OLAW Case 1K]

Dr. William S. Mellon
Associate Dean for Research Policy
University of Wisconsin-Madison
327 Bascom Hall - 500 Lincoln Drive
Madison, WI 53706-1380

Dear Dr. Mellon,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 4, 2008 letter reporting several instances of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, following up on an initial report for one of the incidents on July 10, 2007. According to the information provided, OLAW understands the following about the incidents and the corresponding corrective actions:

- 1) A dog died during a surgical procedure which included the conduct of an activity not described on the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approved protocol. Specifically, one kidney was to be removed and re-implanted however both kidneys were removed.
Corrective action: Future surgeries will have daily written plans which must be read and signed by each participant and then submitted to the manager. The Principal Investigator or designee must be present during surgery and all peri-operative records will be more closely monitored.
- 2) Two calves died after receiving too much lactic acid milk additive due to a feed mixing error.
Corrective action: Upon discovery the calves were treated but one died and the other was euthanized. The facility has stopped using the additive.
- 3) Four mice died after receiving an incorrectly diluted solution of cadmium sulfate.
Corrective action: The student responsible was reprimanded and retrained and the laboratory staff was counseled.
- 4) A sheep recovering from sedation aspirated rumen contents and died from pneumonia. The investigator responsible had left the animal before it was completely recovered.
Corrective action: The IACUC required the presence of qualified personnel to remain with an animal until recovery is complete. The laboratory will investigate other anesthetics with shorter recovery times and will contact the veterinarian when problems occur with anesthetic recoveries.
- 5) A whistleblower allegation about mishandling of mice was made to the IACUC but upon investigation, no basis to the allegation was substantiated.

