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Date: 1/13/06 5:20PM
Subject: Let the Smoke Clear

Dear Sponsors,

I would like to let the smoke clear on the press release I forwarded to you regarding the closing of the AGHCF. There are a number of inconsistencies in the press release that need to be resolved in my mind before I proceed. The major issue for me is: it is not clear that a Director of a DOE lab has the authority to close a DOE nuclear facility to programmatic work without consulting with DOE. I know that DOE has the authority to close one of its facilities.

I will continue to write my contingency plan for each of you to ensure that your data needs will be satisfied regardless of the fate of the AGHCF. I am sure you are working on your own. However, we have a three-day weekend coming up and I would like to determine how "final" and "official" this decision is before sending you the details.

Have a good weekend,

Mike

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