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May 30, 1983

Dr. George Levinskas
Director, Environmental Assessment and Toxicology
Monsanto Company
800 North Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63167

Dear Dr. Levinskas:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the manuscript identified as "Aroclor 1254: Monkey Reproduction Study". I think that the manuscript is an acceptable documentation of the study (as I recall it) and would be willing to be listed as a co-author.

There are two apparent inaccuracies: (1) Sentence number 1 of Discussion (p 23) lists a reference - Barsotti, et al (1979). The subsequent references (p 27) list only one Barsotti reference dated (1976).

(2) First sentence of paragraph number 2 in Discussion (p 24). "Among the similarities was the absence of effects on male rhesus monkeys at any dosage of Aroclor 1248 or Aroclor 1254." I know that the "working authors" did not mean to say what the sentence indicated, because the text contains numerous references to lesions, clinical observations, etc. that were noted in males. It appears that revision of the sentence is in order.

I don't recall having used the descriptive term "crypt metaplasia of Brunner's glands" (p 20), but if the term is in the report I am satisfied to stand by it. I was then more meticulous in selection of diagnostic terms than I am now after 4 more years in the rat race.

Berthold On one point I can offer some assurance. I think it was a Dr. Berthold who was disappointed about the minimal lesions found in a low dose infant. This was an observation that can't be changed but I never thought it had any practical significance. It boggles the mind to contemplate how many rhesus infants would have to be examined to establish a base line for spontaneous lesions of this type. However, I did not discuss the philosophy of toxicological interpretations with Dr. Berthold because it lies outside my field of professional experience.

Please note the spelling of my last name.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Herman R. Seibold

Herman R. Seibold, V.M.D.

HRS/rbg

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