Dear Ken:

Thank you for your letter on March 21 and the enclosed Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) test recommendation documents (In Vitro Methods for Assessing Acute Systemic Toxicity and Revised Up- and Down Procedure for Determining Acute Oral Toxicity of Chemicals). Pursuant to the ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-545), the Department of Energy (DOE) is responding to the ICCVAM test recommendations in developing test alternatives to achieve the goals of 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction, and Refinement). These documents are helpful in formulating DOE response.

As you know, DOE has no regulatory or guidance responsibilities directly applicable to the ICCVAM test recommendations. However, DOE will continue to support the goal of ICCVAM and disseminate the test recommendations to all DOE Labs and contractors engaged in research activities using animals as test objects.

Sincerely,

Marvin E. Frazier, Director
Life Sciences Division
US DOE