



August 5, 2014

TO: Deputy Director for Extramural Research

FROM: Director, Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)

SUBJECT: Final Review and Decision on OLAW actions – ACTION

ISSUE

This is to request your concurrence that the Director, OLAW review and provide the final decision on behalf of NIH when an assured institution or other interested party disagrees with an action taken by any of the OLAW divisions (Compliance Oversight, Assurances or Policy and Education). This approach is in the best interest of the NIH as it establishes a consistent policy when any decisions made by OLAW involving the underlying facts, policy interpretation, assurance review and approval, or compliance oversight are questioned.

BACKGROUND

The authority and responsibilities of OLAW are granted by the PHS Policy for the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (PHS Policy), which states in section V.A.: “OLAW is responsible for the general administration and coordination of this Policy and will: request and negotiate, approve or disapprove, and, as necessary, restrict or withdraw approval of Assurances; distribute to Scientific Review Administrators of initial review and technical evaluation groups, and to PHS awarding units, lists of institutions that have an approved Assurance; advise awarding units and awardee institutions concerning the implementation of this Policy; evaluate allegations of noncompliance with this Policy; have the authority to review and approve or disapprove waivers to this Policy (see V.D. of this Policy); and conduct site visits to selected institutions.”

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that you concur that the Director, OLAW provide the final review and decision on behalf of NIH when OLAW actions involving PHS Policy activities are questioned.

  
Sally Rockey, Ph.D.

DECISION

Concur that Director, OLAW provide the final review and decision on behalf of NIH when OLAW actions involving PHS Policy activities are questioned.

Approved  Disapproved  Date 8/8/14