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Helping all people
live healthy lives

November 22, 2011

Elizabeth Goldentyer, D.V.M.
USDA, APHIS Eastern Regional Office, Animal Care
Unit No. 3040
920 Main Campus Drive, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27606

Dear Dr. Goldentyer:

The 1,450 rabbits listed under Column E of our USDA Form 7023 were used to produce *Treponema pallidum* organisms for the diagnosis of syphilis. Under this IACUC approved protocol, number 4B, we infected rabbits with the organism, and allowed them to develop the disease for 10-12 days before euthanizing them. A post mortem harvest collected the *Treponema* spirochetes.

We may infer that the orchitis associated with *Treponema* infection caused some distress, but treatment of the disease would destroy or impact the organisms the procedure is intended to produce.

Sincerely,

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