

December 16, 2020

Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer, DVM
Deputy Administrator
USDA-APHIS Animal Care
920 Main Campus Drive, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27606-5210
Via email: animalcare@usda.gov

Dear Dr. Goldentyer,

On behalf of Rise for Animals (Rise; formerly the New England Anti-Vivisection Society), I am writing to relay our concern regarding troubling evidence of animal suffering at Covance Laboratories, Inc. We respectfully request that you perform an unannounced, unscheduled, visit to the lab.

Document We Reviewed

In formulating the recommendation below, Rise reviewed a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Inspection Report of Covance Laboratories, Inc. (APHIS Registration No. 35-R-0030) dated May 21, 2019, which was made publicly available by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

Finding: Poor Handling of Nonhuman Primates Resulted in Injuries Requiring Euthanasia

The Inspection Report we reviewed revealed that due to improper handling of nonhuman primates, two primates suffered irreparable orthopedic damage and had to be euthanized. These two incidents were discovered during an inspection on May 21, 2019. Had the personnel not failed to handle the animals properly, these injuries would have been avoided. According to the report, "[o]rthopedic injuries can be painful for animals and handling methods must not cause orthopedic injuries." It is clear that the handlers were not careful based on the severity of the injuries and the required subsequent euthanasia.

Request: Perform an Unannounced, Unscheduled Inspection of Covance Laboratories, Inc.

Orthopedic injuries from improper, rough handling are avoidable so long as lab personnel handle animals with care. The severity of these two separate incidents resulted in irreparable damage and primate suffering and death. This disregard for proper animal care and nonhuman primate life is extremely concerning, and as such we respectfully request that you arrange an unannounced,

unscheduled visit to Covance Laboratories, Inc. to check on the ways in which lab personnel are handling animals and to ensure no other incidents like those in 2019 are still occurring.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Herschler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nathan Herschler
Executive Director