



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-6910
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 402-7065

April 11, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3033-01 [OLAW Case 2B]

Dr. Sandra A. Brown
Vice Chancellor for Research Affairs
University of California-San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive, 0043
LaJolla, CA 92093-0043

Dear Dr. Brown,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your April 1, 2019 letter reporting a serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* at the University of California San Diego, following up on an initial telephone report on March 18, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that 30 mice died or required euthanasia after not receiving water due to a malfunctioning rack hose coil.

The corrective actions consisted of replacing the hose, changing rack flush and water flow checks to daily instead of weekly, and retraining the husbandry staff on recognizing dehydration in mice.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO

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April 1, 2019

Axel Wolff, MS, DVM
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)
National Institutes of Health
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Wolff,

Per PHS Policy IV.F.3, I am writing to advise you of an incident that occurred in a UC San Diego vivarium. On February 11, 2019, a Principal Investigator's lab staff contacted the Animal Care Program (ACP) on-call staff after hours and reported that research mice on one ventilated rack were lethargic or dead, and it appeared to be from dehydration. The ACP staff responded quickly and found the hose coil on that rack was malfunctioning, resulting in a failure of the rack watering system. The hose coil was immediately replaced. The rack's flushing mechanism and water flow had been checked on February 8, 2019, and were working properly. All animals were checked daily with no reports of dehydration, however, 30 mice were subsequently found dead or euthanized due to apparent dehydration.

Prior to this incident, water flow checks on the racks were performed using a combination of random spot checks (not required daily), daily system pressure and flow data monitoring with alarms, water flow checks on all newly placed cages on existing racks, and water flow checks on all newly placed racks and associated cages. To help prevent further occurrences, ACP husbandry management modified the rack flush checks to daily instead of weekly, water flow checks are now conducted daily (including weekends), and Animal Care staff were retrained in identifying dehydration in mice. The vendor's inspection report of the old hose coil is still pending. Per the Principal Investigator, no NIH funding supported the animals that were affected by this incident.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (b) (6) or sandrabrown@ucsd.edu.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Sandra A. Brown, PhD
Vice Chancellor for Research
IACUC Institutional Official
Assurance number: A3033-1 / D16-00020

cc: Philip Richter, DVM, PhD, Director, Animal Care Program
Angela McMahon, JD, Executive Director, Research Compliance and Integrity
Kristen Anderson-Vicino, MS, Director, IACUC Office

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:11 PM
To: IACUC; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: Brown, Sandra; Richter, Philip; McMahon, Angela; Anderson-Vicino, Kristen
Subject: RE: Letter from University of California, San Diego

Thank you for providing this report. We will send an official response soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACIAM
Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health

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From: IACUC [mailto:iacuc@ucsd.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2019 7:31 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Brown, Sandra <sandrabrown@ucsd.edu>; Richter, Philip <prichter@ucsd.edu>; McMahon, Angela <amcmahill@ucsd.edu>; Anderson-Vicino, Kristen <kca002@ucsd.edu>
Subject: Letter from University of California, San Diego
Importance: High

Dear Dr. Wolff,

Please find attached correspondence from Dr. Sandra A. Brown, Vice Chancellor for Research at the University of California, San Diego.

Regards,
Kristen

Kristen C. Anderson-Vicino, MS, LATG
Director, IACUC Office
Research Compliance and Integrity
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research | UC San Diego | 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093-0071
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/sponsor/iacuc/>

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Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: *Am*

Date: *3/12/19*

Time: *11:20*

Name of Person reporting: *Kristen Anderson*

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: *U of California - San Diego*

Assurance number: *A3033*

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? *No*

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened?

Mice came off rack, no water to mice

Species involved: *Mice*

Personnel involved:

Dates and times:

Animal deaths:

Projected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known): _____

*30 mice died/overcrowded
Do daily flush of rack*

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____