DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

September 5, 1978

Mr. Herman Shipley
Office of Federal Procurement Policy
New Executive Office Building
Room 9001
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Shipley:

During the Nelson hearings you indicated your interest in being kept informed on the progress of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare patent policy review.

I am attaching herewith the most recent draft on DHEW patent policy. You should take particular note of the concept of restraining the availability of new inventions in order to control the cost of health care through control of their ownership. The President's memorandum on patent policy does not now speak to prospective cost as a criteria for determining invention ownership. In addition, the suggestion that public notice be made prior to making waiver of an invention right to the contractor should be reviewed for consistency with the existing Federal Procurement Regulations.

Sincerely yours,

Norman J. Latker
Patent Counsel

Enclosure

bcc: Lowell Harmison, HEW
James Denny

HEW/OS/GCB NJLatker/ack 9-5-78

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