



April 16, 2012

Michael Budkie
SAEN
1081-B St. Rt. 28, #280
Milford, OH 45150

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Animal Care
Western Region

2150 Centre Ave.
Building B
Mail Stop # 3W11
Ft. Collins, CO 80526
Phone: 970/494-7478
Fax: 970/494-7461

Dear Complainant:

Thank you for your emailed letter dated April 16, 2012 concerning Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute. Your concern has been issued number #W12-084. If you wish to know the results of our findings, you must send a request, in writing, to our Freedom of Information Act office. Depending on the circumstances of the situation, please allow us enough time (30 to 60 days) to thoroughly investigate your concerns.

FOIA requests can be submitted three ways--

1. Email: foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov
2. Fax: 301-734-5941
3. US Mail: USDA, APHIS, FOIA
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20723

Animal Care is the division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that is responsible for the enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. The Act provides minimum standards for the humane care and use of animals at USDA licensed or registered facilities.

Animal Care inspectors conduct routine unannounced inspections at all USDA licensed and registered facilities to ensure that they are meeting or exceeding these minimum standards. Our inspectors also conduct searches for unlicensed facilities conducting regulated activities. We perform inspections and searches when necessary in response to valid concerns and complaints received from the public to ensure the well-being of the animals and compliance with the law. If violations are found, enforcement action appropriate for the circumstances will be initiated.

Please be assured that we will look into your concerns and take appropriate action if necessary.

Thank you for your interest in the welfare of these animals.

Sincerely,

Robert Gibbens, DVM
Director, Western Region
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

cc: Jeanne Kjos, VMO



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