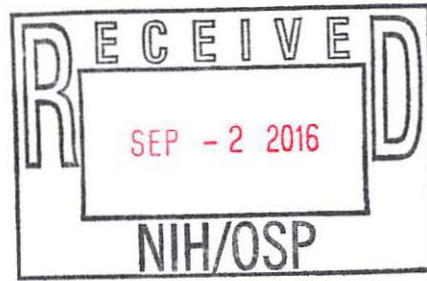


1461 Via Marettimo
Monterey, CA 93940
August 29, 2016



Office of Science Policy
National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 750
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dr. Francis S. Collins
NIH Director

Subject: Human-Animal Chimera Research

Dear Dr. Collins:

We recently learned of the NIH announcement of August 4, 2016 that the NIH intends to begin spending taxpayer funds on the creation and manipulation of new beings whose existence blurs the line between humans and animals. This research is fundamentally different from what has been done in the past and it is ethically problematic for several reasons:

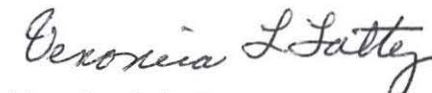
- First, it relies on the killing of humans at the embryonic stage to harvest their stem cells
- Second, it involves the production of animals that could have partly or wholly human brains
- Third, it involves the production of animals that could have human sperm or eggs

Introducing human embryonic stem cells into very early animal embryos will make it very difficult to know the extent to which human cells contribute to the final organism. This creates an additional problem: if researchers can't know with certainty whether the resulting being has human status or characteristics, they won't know what their moral obligations are toward that being.

The NIH should consider the ethical issues involved in the creation and manipulation of **Partly Human Animals** and place a permanent moratorium on funding human-animal chimera research.

Yours truly,


Charles C. Latty, Jr.


Veronica L. Latty