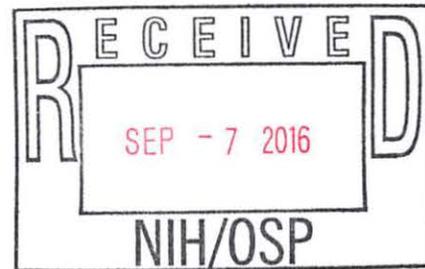


Office of Science Policy
The National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 750
Bethesda, MD 20892



August 30, 2016

I object strongly to the NIH's proposal to rescind its moratorium on funding of research involving human-animal chimeras. I do not want my tax dollars to be used for grossly unethical research involving the creation and manipulation of part- human, part-animal beings whose very existence blurs the line between human and non- human animals. This research raises all the ethical problems of embryonic stem cell research in general and serious additional problems related to creation of human animal beings with partly or substantially human brains and/or human gametes.

I also object strongly to the NIH's lack of consideration for the ethical issues implicated by this research. Indeed the NIH pledged to "undertake a deliberative process to evaluate the state of the science in this area, *the ethical issues that should be considered*, and the relevant animal welfare concerns that should be associated with these types of studies" when the moratorium was put in place in 2015. Yet, to date, there is no evidence of any discussion of the ethical issues involved in creating partly human animals.

I strongly urge you to maintain the current moratorium on funding involving the creation and manipulation of human-animal chimeras.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen A. Ott".

Karen A. Ott