

NIH Directors, Please DO NOT MODIFY the current moratorium on generating human-animal chimeras, at least for the following reasons: No way to obtain informed consent from the human embryo who is donating the pluripotent cells. No direct benefit to the human embryo involved. At present, no way to prevent the transferred human genome from ending up in the gonadal primordia of the non-human animal. At present, no way to prevent the transferred human genome from ending up in the brain primordia of the nonhuman animal. This is not just a scientific-medical issue; this is a SOCIAL ISSUE: Essentially, introducing the entire human genome into non-human animals. To allow only 30 day comments in some obscure government website, when the American people are focused on a presidential election, is unconscionable. This issue can become a form of positive eugenics, and the American people need to be broadly consulted on this. This issue needs to be resolved either in the November ballot or through an act of Congress -which I suspect is exactly what NIH is seeking to avoid by trying to pass it "under the radar" of the general public. With all due respect, and praising the good, hard work that NIH does, please reconsider, and show respect for the American people, who are the ones funding NIH. Thanking you for the opportunity to comment, I am Paco Ruiz