

MEDICAL COLLEGE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
16 LUCAS STREET  
CHARLESTON 16, SOUTH CAROLINA

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

July 12, 1963

Mr. W. T. Hoyt, Executive Director  
Tobacco Industry Research Committee  
150 East Forty-Second Street  
New York 17, New York

Dear Tom:

I want to ask your advice on a matter which may be one of policy. Please consider it carefully, perhaps with Little - and of course with anyone else you would like. I am quite aware of a common charge, although not in our hearing, that members of the SAB may be influenced in their thinking by personal gain. That sort of thing has never bothered me, nor did it seem to concern members of the Advisory Councils of the NIH in freely applying for grants when I was a member, but it might bother others.

I also keep in mind our basic objective in furthering study of "tobacco and health," although I recognize many questions of great importance to that subject in which tobacco may not even be involved per se.

As you know, I have been heavily involved in what started out to be a wildlife research with wild turkeys. As I approach what might well have been a concluding phase of that study, it has been thrown into crisis by the pesticide question. Now the only connection between tobacco and pesticides is that tobacco is being sprayed with these **poisonous chemicals**. While I do not know at this moment that the materials that are applied to tobacco are the same as my turkeys are heavily exposed to, both directly and in their feed, they are of the same nature. They are now under question of carcinogenicity as well as affecting reproduction and other catastrophies in health and in life itself. I have evidence that these chemicals applied heavily in fogging the countryside as insecticides are destroying my study - and my turkeys.

July 12, 1963

Mr. W. T. Hoyt, Executive Director

The question is, would it be proper and wise for a chemist colleague and me to make application for a grant to investigate the effects of pesticides that are applied to tobacco, using these birds, and possibly others, even though they have no exposure to tobacco smoke. Incidentally, I have an idea that such pollutants will sooner or later be brought into question as a dangerous contaminant, as arsenic was. Also, I have been in communication with our grantee at North Carolina State, who is working in a similar direction.

Please give me your thoughts on this subject.

Sincerely,



Kenneth M. Lynch, M. D.

KML:jch