July 19, 1977

HR 6249

Mr. Robert A. Swanson
President, GENENTECH
475 Sansome Street
Fifteenth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111

Dear Bob:

I very much enjoyed my conversation with you and Herb Boyer the other
evening. As you requested, I am attaching a copy of Congressman
Thornton's comprehensive Government patent policy bill, H. R. 6249.
You would be particularly interested in the contractor section of the
bill.

In addition, I am attaching a presentation that I made some months ago
at a symposium at the University of California. The major thesis of
the presentation was my belief that the need for the historical
university-industry interface has become less obvious in modern society,
and this need must be revitalized. The presentation further covers
the important part patents play in the hands of universities in
assuring that the interface is viable.

I am also attaching the reports generated by the President's Biomedical
Research Panel and the Commission on Human Subjects in response to
Congress' request to study the impact of the Freedom of Information
Act on disclosure of research information to the Government. As you
will see, the recommendations of both reports indicate that the fourth
exemption of the Freedom of Information Act provides for unjustified
access to privately owned information in the hands of the Government,
and that statutory relief is necessary to protect against inequitable
releases. These reports clearly support the inclusion of lines 23 through
25 of Section 480 of the Rogers DNA bill, H.R. 7897. In addition,
you might be interested in the attached 1975 paper I delivered on the
same subject.

Last, I'm attaching a paper delivered on the impact of regulation on
the innovative process made earlier this year which, although somewhat
emotional, appears to be a topic that a number of people are now
interested in.

Sincerely yours,

Norman J. Latker
Patent Counsel

Enclosures

OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE	OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE	OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE