

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 3/5

TO: *Donsia Strong*

FROM: **JOHN D. PODESTA**
Assistant to the President and
Staff Secretary

*Give me credit for being
in the right barnyard.*

*Speaking of which,
we better clear that
letter with the
President's Science Advisor*

| 6515

D.S.
Sorry
These
were
not
mailed
JDP

Date: _____

Time: _____

THE WHITE HOUSE

FAX COVER SHEET

93 MAR 8 09:35

TO: John Podesta

Phone: () _____

FAX: () 2215

FROM: Dorinda Strong

Phone: (202) 456-2330

Santerini not Sangria!

Pages following cover sheet = _____

... totally dedicated to restoration" of the environment, O'Leary said in an interview with reporters and editors at The Washington Post. "Livermore has been the proposal and it's one that intrigues me greatly."

Several officials said the proposal remains in a preliminary stage, but would reflect President Clinton's desire to see the Energy Department move from the front lines of the Cold War to new civilian responsibilities, including repairing the environmental damage created around the country by work on nuclear weapons over the past 50 years.

"Our business for the long term is

technology transfer and promotion of conservation and efficiency, O'Leary said. As an indication of the reduced military importance of nuclear weapons, she recalled that during her initial discussion with Clinton about the Energy Department last December, he hardly mentioned the nuclear weapons work that was at the core of the department's responsibilities during the Reagan and Bush years.

Officials at Livermore as well as at two sister labs in the nuclear weapons business—Sandia and Los Alamos, both in New Mexico—have known for a while that the glory days of weapons invention were finished.

President George Bush cancelled production of new U.S. warheads last year, and Congress passed legislation allowing just 15 more underground nuclear tests for weapons design before a complete cessation in 1996.

O'Leary's predecessor, James D. Watkins, had strongly opposed the legislation, saying in a January report that it would "undermine the long-term quality of the nation's nuclear deterrent." But O'Leary said yesterday the legislation was appropriate "as it exists" and the administration will not try to change it.

"This needs to be a collaborative effort, it needs the thinking of the lab

directors," O'Leary said of the proposal to alter Livermore's main mission. She said the idea would be discussed soon with Livermore Director John A. Nuckolls and his colleagues, and decided before September.

O'Leary also said that in any event, an effort would be made to retain the "core competence" of nuclear weapons scientists so their work can be revived "in case the world becomes unsettled again."

Clinton, in a letter to Congress on Feb. 12, said he would spell out later this spring a schedule for resuming talks with Russia aimed at reaching accord on a comprehensive nuclear testing ban. Also expected are de-

O'Leary indicated her ment style would differ from Watkins, whose blunt and tailed management directed many employees. She aim will be to "make it clear," then let staff members press their views.

O'Leary said he agreed with Watkins's assessment that the department had rated a "B" on in 1989 and only a "C-plus" departure in January. She said the bureaucratic culture at the department had largely resisted his attempt at reform, adding, "don't think I even began to peel that onion

Staff writer Thomas W. Lipson contributed to this report.

Clinton's Science Adviser Defends His Views on Animal Rights

Associated Press

President Clinton's science adviser is a firm believer in animal rights, refuses to eat veal and believes some researchers have needlessly abused laboratory animals.

John Gibbons's views have aroused concern among some scientists, especially after a report that his wife belonged to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), one of the more controversial animal-rights groups.

Gibbons said yesterday that his wife, Mary Ann, was once a member of PETA, but that she let her membership lapse three or four years ago.

"They were getting more and more 'fringy,' so she didn't renew her subscription," he said in an interview with the Associated Press.

An animal-rights bumper sticker that Gibbons said he thinks came from PETA adorned the family station wagon in the mid-1980s, Gibbons said.

PETA regularly releases information about laboratory break-ins by the Animal Liberation Front, although PETA says it has no connection with the ALF. Amy Bertsch, a spokeswoman for PETA, said that PETA neither encourages nor condemns the illegal actions.

Gibbons said he and his wife eat meat, but he doesn't eat veal. "You know how veal is raised? In the dark, milk-fed, force-fed, in a cage, never sees the ground. And I don't want to eat an animal that's been given that kind of life."

Gibbons dismissed scientists' concerns about his views, however, saying he is a strong supporter of

the use of animals in research when necessary.

"My gosh, yes, you've got to have whole animals for a lot of very critical experiments and evaluations," Gibbons said. "But that doesn't mean you abuse them either or are callous in the way you use them."

"I want to see animal use on the basis of necessity—defensible necessity," he said.

The National Association for Biomedical Research, which was formed to promote scientists' views of laboratory animal research, said its members expressed concern about Gibbons's views after his appointment.

"I'd like to be sure that he has all the information about what modern laboratory animal medicine is all about," said Barbara Rich, executive vice president of the association.

"My accusation to that community at my confirmation hearing was they ought to be taking better care of the abuses that historically have occurred," Gibbons said. "I've seen video tapes. I know. Abuses have occurred."

Rich said Gibbons had produced a balanced report on animal research while he was director of the congressional Office of Technology Assessment, and she said she did not believe he held unreasonable views on animal rights.

Gibbons said both he and his wife are interested in protection of primates, and his wife belongs to a group called the International Primate Protection League. The league monitors illegal primate trade and has filed suits to enforce laboratory animal protections.



JOHN GIBBONS's wife had belonged to PETA.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESENTATION

Donna
Edwards