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October 6, 1998

Mr. Paul Burns
Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group
29 Temple Place
Boston, MA 02111

Dear Paul,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me last week to discuss the New England Laboratory XL Project. Per your suggestion, I will follow up with Merrimack College's National Microscale Center to explore opportunities to more effectively incorporate "microscale" chemistry into the laboratories of the institutions participating in our XL Project . As we discussed, Boston College, University of Massachusetts and the University of Vermont are already utilizing, to some degree, microscale chemistry. I know that these institutions support the use of microscale chemistry as an important tool in reducing potential exposures to laboratory workers and preventing pollution - two of the primary goals of this project.

I will notify you when the University of Massachusetts Boston hosts a local stakeholder meeting later this month and will include Massachusetts PIRG on the stakeholder list to receive future information concerning the status of the project and environmental performance data when it becomes available.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 617-348-1838 or at tbalf@mlstrat.com.

Yours truly,

Thomas P. Balf

cc: Gina Snyder, Environmental Protection Agency
Suzanne Howard, Boston College
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