



TO J.K. Pulfer
A

Ad-hoc Review Committee on Spectroscopy in HIA

Since our telephone conversation yesterday I have had an opportunity to compare the proposed rewording of the Terms of Reference of the Ad-hoc Review Committee on Spectroscopy with the original wording and have come to the conclusion that I cannot accept the revision.

As I understand it, the suggestion of Management Committee is that the clause,

"To make recommendations concerning the future direction and future level of effort of these activities"

should be altered to read

"To make recommendations concerning the future of these activities."


The wording which I originally proposed is the standard one which has been used, as far as I am aware, for all previous committees. Why is it considered necessary to use a different wording in the case of the Ad-hoc Review Committee on Spectroscopy in HIA?

The inescapable conclusion is that management feels that this committee should not only be asked to make recommendations concerning the future course of the research effort, but, unlike other committees, it should be given an opportunity to offer advice as to the very existence of the research group in the future. If this is, in fact, not the intent then I cannot understand why a change in wording, which is open to this interpretation, is considered desirable.

It is inconceivable to me that management would be so insensitive to the contributions which the Spectroscopy Laboratory has made in gaining international recognition for the Council that it would suggest, however subtly or unintentionally, that its future existence should be questioned. I am fiercely proud of the past accomplishments of the Spectroscopy Laboratory and, given support, am confident that it will continue to lead the world. I cannot, therefore, sit idly by and allow the suspicion to arise that the laboratory which Dr. Herzberg and Dr. Douglas founded and so carefully staffed might not, in the future, have the full support of NRC management.

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