

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

for

Irradiation of Laboratory Animal Feeds

FAP 2225

Purina Mills, Inc.
St. Louis, MO 63144

The Center for Veterinary Medicine has carefully considered the potential environmental impact of this action and has concluded that this action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be required.

Purina Mills, Inc., is requesting approval of FAP 2225 for the manufacture and use of irradiated laboratory feed. The submission proposes the use of ionizing irradiation from ^{60}Co , cesium 137 or electron beam to sterilize the feed at a total dose of 4.5 Mrads which is approximately twice as high as the limit of 2.5 Mrads specified in 21 CFR 579.22 for rat, mice and hamster feeds. In addition, the submission adds rabbit and guinea pig feeds to the list of approved species feeds. The firm provided an acceptable environmental assessment (EA) dated March 9, 1992, in support of the action (copy attached). The EA addresses the potential environmental and occupational impacts due to the irradiation process.

We have reviewed the EA and have determined that the proposed action is not expected to have a significant impact on the human environment.

5/20/92

Date

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Preparer, Environmental Sciences Staff, HFV-152

5/20/92

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Attachment: EA dated March 9, 1992