



Graduate School of Management

Brigham Young University

February 16, 1979

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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
STATE OF UTAH

Mr. Mike Zimmerman
Governor's Office
State Capitol Building
Salt Lake City, UT

RE: RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT AND SHEEP DEATHS IN IRON COUNTY, 1953

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

The following is the information that you requested in our telephone conversation Thursday afternoon.

- A. Please feel free to release information in this letter and in the previous letter to Governor Matheson on the same subject to the news media and/or others who in your judgment should receive the information.
- B. With reference to the negotiation for the research grant through USU Agriculture Experiment Station.

As I recall the first discussion on the matter was with the head of the Biological Medicine Division of AEC informed me that the only way that livestockmen were going to get any benefits paid for by AEC would be through the possible avenue of a range nutrition research grant to the Utah State Agriculture Experiment Station. He emphasized that there was no way that they were going to get direct payments from AEC for the losses. This occurred as I recall during the spring of 1953. As I recall I notified the Experiment Station of this possibility. I do not recall if direct contact at that point was made between the AEC personnel and the Experiment Station. However, at a later date during the summer, I remember meeting with representatives of the Range Management Department and Animal Nutritionists from the Animal Science Department. It runs in my mind that Dr. Lorin Harris from the Animal Science Department was one of the representatives. In these discussions or possibly in private conversations, it was made clear to me that if such a research project were funded, it would be limited to desert range nutritional problems and would not involve radiation studies. I remember in a meeting with the livestockmen with representatives of AEC where a similar statement was made to the livestockmen. They were told if they cooperated it was possible that AEC would consider providing a research grant to study the possible causes of sheep deaths. I do not recall how many meetings we had between officials of the AEC and representatives of the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, but there were at least two held in Cedar City and it seems to me that I did meet at least once in Logan. In each of these I recall

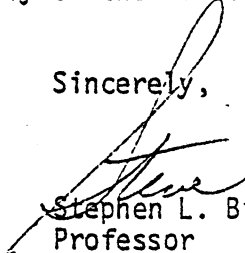
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the issue was again pressed to consider a broader base for the research than just winter range nutritional problems. But AEC was adamant on that matter.

- C. As a followup to February 14th letter I note that I failed to include the paragraph headings on the numbered paragraphs. In the previous letter I provided a paragraph of supportive, illustrative information under each of these strategies: _____
1. Classify any data that appeared damaging to the AEC.
 2. Provide alternative possible answers to make a case for any non-radiation explanations.
 3. Smokescreen the issue with attacks, innuendos, and diversionary procedures.
 4. Withhold and even modify reports and data.

There may still be in the Iron County Agricultural Agent's Office in old files, some of the colored slides I took of the sick and dying sheep that survived the winter in 1953 and were taken to the mountain for the summer range. I don't remember whether these slides were picked up and classified by AEC or became part of the court records in the court case or whether they are still in the Agent's office in Cedar City. If that office retained the correspondence from that period, there may be copies of correspondence, particularly on the matter of the research grant that may be of relevance.

Sincerely,



Stephen L. Brower
Professor

SLB:vf

Enclosures: The Provo Herald, February 14, 1979
The Daily Universe, February 14, 1979
The Daily Universe, February 15, 1979