

SN-14113-B

Fiscal Crunch Relief

Mr. Holdren. Mr. Lander, and distinguished concerned citizens:

A worker at a certain U. S. Government research facility once told me that they have a blanket policy of not promoting collaboration with non-governmental organizations and businesses. At another federal installation the policy is to provide research work to be done for outside clients by its own staff. The rule by the first entity is designed to not compete with private laboratories. Obviously the policy is inconsistent from one government facility to another.

From a perusal of the hard copy of this appeal and the attached list of National User Facility Organization it is clear that these establishments are of interest mostly to well financed large organizations that do theoretical investigations, but it is, also, well to keep in mind that many large and small private businesses do much of this nation's applied research and development which is so important to the material progress of the United States. There are many non-defense government labs all around the country, and very few of their neighbors even know about them, much less make use of them.

Many government labs have personnel with useful expertise and underused equipment which could be of help to outsiders.. Essentially it might be a source of government revenue if they were made available to others. Why not establish a more flexible *Rent-A Government Equipment and Facilities Arrangement* on a cost of service basis?