“Give the Animals 5” Template Shareholder Resolution – 2004

This Proposal is submitted by [ ], owner of [ ] shares of stock.

This proposal relates to [Company name]’s policies and procedures with respect to corporate stewardship, human health, and good science in connection with product testing.

BE IT RESOLVED that the shareholders of [Company name] request:

1. That the Board issue a policy statement publicly committing the Company to sound science in the interest of public health through the elimination of testing products on animal models in favor of more reliable and less costly *in vitro* and other non-animal alternatives.

2. That the Board petition the relevant governmental regulatory agencies to permit [Company name] to use more reliable non-animal assays in connection with chemical and product testing generally, and specifically with reference to testing for skin corrosion, absorption, irritation, phototoxicity and pyrogenicity endpoints.

3. That the Board establish a Shareholders Advisory Committee consisting of balanced membership for the purpose of monitoring [Company name]’s success in achieving the objectives set forth above, and for the further purpose of counseling the Board on these ethical, human health, and scientific issues.
**Supporting Statement:** Testing for skin corrosion, skin irritation, skin absorption, phototoxicity, and pyrogenicity on animals is no longer necessary. Each of these endpoints can be tested utilizing non-animal methods.

Testing for skin corrosion can be accomplished using validated human skin equivalent tests such as EpiDerm™ and EpiSkin™. The primitive *in vivo* test is conducted on fully restrained rabbits with the chemical applied to bare skin for several hours. Canada, the European Union, and most Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) members have accepted the *in vitro* tests.

The rate at which a chemical is absorbed through the skin can be determined through the use of isolated human skin tissue instead of applying substances to the skin of living animals. This *in vitro* approach has been accepted as an OECD Test Guideline, and in several European countries.

Once a chemical has been determined to be non-corrosive, its potential to cause milder irritation can be tested in a virtually non-invasive skin patch test. Regulators in Canada accept the use of human skin-patch test volunteers as a valid replacement for animal based testing.

Phototoxicity, or inflammation caused by the interaction of a chemical with sunlight, can be evaluated utilizing the validated 3T3 Neutral Red Uptake ("NRU") phototoxicity test. The animal based test consists of applying different concentrations of a chemical on the shaved back of guinea pigs, and exposing half of the animals to ultraviolet radiation for two or more hours. The NRU test has been accepted throughout Europe and by the OECD as the official test for phototoxicity.

Pyrogenicity refers to the inflammatory reaction and fever that can occur when certain intravenous drugs and pharmaceutical products interact with the
immune system. The animal based test consists of locking rabbits in restraints, injecting test substances into their blood stream, and monitoring temperature. The *in vitro* pyrogen test, validated in Europe, involves using human blood donated by healthy human donors.

The *in vitro* tests are more humane, less costly, and constitute sound science.