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Dated: March 19, 2015.

Edward Loeb,

Acting Director, Office of Government-wide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy.

[FR Doc. 2015-06818 Filed 3-24-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Decision To Evaluate a Petition To Designate a Class of Employees From the Argonne National Laboratory-West in Scoville, Idaho, To Be Included in the Special Exposure Cohort

AGENCY: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: NIOSH gives notice of a decision to evaluate a petition to designate a class of employees from the Argonne National Laboratory-West in Scoville, Idaho, to be included in the Special Exposure Cohort under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stuart L. Hinnefeld, Director, Division of Compensation Analysis and Support, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 1090 Tusculum Avenue, MS C-46, Cincinnati, OH 45226-1938, Telephone 877-222-7570. Information requests can also be submitted by email to DCAS@CDC.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 42 CFR 83.9-83.12.

Pursuant to 42 CFR 83.12, the initial proposed definition for the class being evaluated, subject to revision as warranted by the evaluation, is as follows:

Facility: Argonne National Laboratory-West.

Location: Scoville, Idaho.

Job Titles and/or Job Duties: All workers who worked in any location.

Period of Employment: April 10, 1951 through December 31, 1979.

John Howard,

Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 2015-06786 Filed 3-24-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-19-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned by an agency of the U.S. Government and are available for licensing in the U.S. in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR part 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally-funded research and development. Foreign patent applications are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for companies and may also be available for licensing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Licensing information and copies of the U.S. patent applications listed below may be obtained by writing to the indicated licensing contact at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852-3804; telephone: 301-496-7057; fax: 301-402-0220. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Technology descriptions follow.

Engineered Antibody Domains With Increased FcRn Binding and *in vivo* Half-Life

Description of Technology: Monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) are a fast growing class of new therapeutic molecules. However, their large size remains a significant challenge, preventing them from targeting sterically restricted epitopes and efficiently penetrating into tissues. Smaller antibody fragments and engineered variants are under development to address this challenge, but to date their therapeutic applications have been limited due to rapid clearance and short half-life which greatly decrease their efficacy *in vivo*.

This technology describes two antibody constant domains or binders with increased FcRn binding and *in vivo* half-life. In addition, these binders are small in size (16kDa), very stable, and can be efficiently expressed in *E. coli*. As a result, the binders are particularly well suited as scaffolds for the generation of antibody libraries, from which a desired antigen binders could be developed into therapeutic products with much greater potency compared to existing mAbs. They could also be used as fusion partners to extend the half-life of candidate protein therapeutics.

Potential Commercial Applications

- Antibody scaffolds for library construction, and the generation of therapeutics against various diseases.
- Fusion partners to extend the half-life of candidate protein therapeutics.

Competitive Advantages

- Small (16kD) size for better tissue penetration, and in the case of fusion proteins, reduced steric hindrance for therapeutic activity.
- Superior stability compared to isolated CH2 domains and stability comparable to or higher than that of an isolated Fc fragment.
- Exhibit greatly enhanced FcRn binding abilities, including more potent transcytosis and longer *in vivo* half-life.
- Can be efficiently expressed in *E. coli*.

Development Stage

- Early-stage
- *In vitro* data available
- *In vivo* data available (animal)

Inventors: Dimiter Dimitrov and Tianlei Ying (NCI).

Intellectual Property: HHS Reference No. E-136-2014/0—US Provisional Application No. 62/022,810 filed July 10, 2014.

Licensing Contact: Whitney Hastings, Ph.D.; 301-451-7337; hastingw@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: The National Cancer Institute is seeking statements of capability or interest from parties interested in collaborative research to further develop, evaluate or commercialize Engineered Antibody Domains. For collaboration opportunities, please contact John D. Hewes, Ph.D. at john.hewes@nih.gov or 240-276-5515.

CXCR4 Reduction Leads to Enhancement of Engraftment of Hematopoietic Stem Cells

Description of Technology: Methods of enhancing engraftment of donor hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs) by reducing expression or activity of