



San Diego
Regional
Economic
Development
Corporation

April 12, 2005

Mr. Robert Klein
Chairman
Independent Citizens Oversight Committee
California Institute for Regenerative Medicine
Post Office Box 99740
Emeryville, CA 94622-9740

Dear Mr. Klein:

We have received the staff evaluation on the four finalist proposals and, while we are delighted to have been selected as a finalist subject to vote of the Site Search Subcommittee, we are mystified by San Diego's rankings in certain categories, such as the number of biomedical personnel proximate to the headquarters location, and the number of leading universities, research hospitals and/or private research institutions within 45 minutes of the headquarters.

There is no other community that can match our concentration of biomedical personnel and research institutes, as was clearly noted in the proposal, page 18. Sixty-one percent of the industry professionals – approximately 24,000 people – are located within a four-mile radius of our proposed site.

Based on that information, how is it that San Francisco in item 1c can get a perfect score of 25 and San Diego less than 45% of that, at 11?

There are additional examples of questionable scores that we will provide you in advance of your site visit.

We would request that you make a re-evaluation of the scores, most notably in items 1, 6 and 8. In addition, the scores in other areas do not reflect what we believe that we proposed, and it could be beneficial for the Site Search Subcommittee to review all categories.

We request that you not accept the scores offered by staff. We believe that it is imperative that the scoring system is fully elaborated so as to explain the differences among the four finalists. Absent that, the process will not be transparent.

530 B Street
Seventh Floor
San Diego
CA 92101

We would like the opportunity to complete our own review, cross-referenced to the specific language in the Finalists' Points Matrix, the RFP and the specific language in our proposal.

Ph: 619-234-8484
Fax: 619-234-1935

www.sandiegobusiness.org

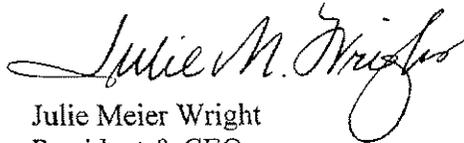
Mr. Robert Klein
April 12, 2005
Page Two

Because the proposal review process entails a site visit that will result in additional rankings, we believe that it would be appropriate to make discussion of the current rankings a part of the site visit, and that the ICOC Site Search Subcommittee could accept the final rankings at its May 2 meeting.

We recognize the constraints on the ICOC Site Search Subcommittee of open meeting requirements. Therefore, we would like to extend an invitation to the entire Site Search Subcommittee to visit San Diego in a properly noticed public meeting. We would anticipate a 10:00 a.m. start time and would conclude not later than 3:00 p.m., enabling all committee members the ability to make the visit in a single day. We are in the process of preparing a detailed timeline for your visit so that we can use your time well, and allow a productive discussion of our proposal.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests.

Sincerely,



Julie Meier Wright
President & CEO

Cc: Mayor Dick Murphy
P. Lamont Ewell, City Manager
CIRM Readiness Coalition
San Diego Members of the CIRM Site Search Subcommittee