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February 25, 1990.

Dr. Joan Arnoldi, Deputy Administrator,
Veterinary Services, USDA-APHIS-VS,
Washington D.C.

Dear Dr. Arnoldi.

I wish to thank you for the information and documents you sent to me one year ago regarding regionalization. It has been decided that I take up the work again to prepare a list of information of the status horse disease situation here in Iceland and the laws and regulations concerning this matter.

As mentioned before Iceland is in the special situation that due to its geographical location and strict import regulations on import of animals and animal products been protected from many animal diseases common in animals in other countries. Although with certain exemption regarding import of Karakul sheep with tragic and costly result.

During the last ten years increased emphasis has been put on monitoring of disease in animals due to export requirements and also of residues in animal products and due to these increased activity in this field the documentation of the situation is reliable and the results trustworthy.

Enclosed you will find the following documents which I feel will describe the situation and answer most of the questions put forward in the document "Clarification of Information Requested for Recognition of a Region". If there are questions which need further explanation please contact me as soon as possible and I will try to give you more information on the subject.

1. Act on veterinarians and animal health services.
2. Act governing animal diseases and preventive measures against them.
3. Act governing the import of animals.
4. Organization chart of the Veterinary Service.
5. Map of Iceland with "Fenced of Areas".
6. OIE Animal Health Report for 1997.
7. Answers to the questions requested for recognition of a region.
8. Results of serological tests against horse diseases.

I hope this information will be sufficient to recognize Iceland as a region with no relevant hazard to the animal population in the United States.

Sincerely yours,

B Sandholt

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