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 (Via FAX to 9 (703) 267-4123)

Dr. Lee M. Hammarstrom
 SAF/SS
 4C-1052 Pentagon
 Washington, DC 20330/1670

Dear Lee,

This is a brief informal report from Nate Lewis and Dick Garwin on the basis of our visit to SRI International Tuesday, 10/19/93. We regret that you were unable to attend, but we hope that this will provide you with the information you might have obtained had you been there.

In addition to the two of us and Mike McKubre, McKubre's colleagues (Stuart Smedley, Fran Tanzella, Steve Crouch-Baker) participated fully, as did Robin Jones and Tom Passell from EPRI and David Golden of SRI. We met from about 0900 to 1730, with a free and frank exchange of views, knowledge, opinion, and analysis.

Description.

The SRI project was begun by Tom Passell (to create a hydrogen sensor and to study catalysis) before there was any suggestion of cold fusion or excess heat. Understandably, he has maintained a strong interest in the program. Of course, all of us would be fascinated and would feel great admiration if it were possible reliably to produce excess heat. The same would be true of a new way of producing nuclear particles under such circumstances, even modest numbers of neutrons, x rays, or gamma rays.

Neither Nate Lewis nor I has any reluctance to entertain and recognize a purely experimental discovery. We don't need a theory to make us believe our eyes. But we do need a significant, reproducible effect, and that is what McKubre and his colleagues are attempting to produce.

We had a good deal of discussion of the new cells L1-L4 which have been running since April; we held one in our hands and are now quite familiar with its construction. We also had extensive discussions of data from one of the cells, which according to a summary chart has provided about 3% excess heat. This is not a derived kind of excess heat, related to the minimum electrochemical energy required to electrolyze water to produce dihydrogen(g) and

Draft for McKubre (12/23/93)