From: Joseph_Schuller@hgsi.com [mailto:Joseph_Schuller@hgsi.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2009 10:17 AM

To: Fawcett, Susan

Subject: A0651-0024 comment@ (re: Requirements for Sequence Disclosures)

Dear Ms. Fawcett.

On behalf of Human Genome Sciences, Inc., I am responding to the request for comments on the current sequence listing requirements published August 11, 2009 at 74 Federal Register 40163.

In our experience, significant delays and additional paperwork burdens are introduced by inefficiencies in the USPTO Checker software that applicants use to verify compliance with the USPTO Sequence Rules. The current version of Checker is four years old, and is not as stringent in detecting errors as the USPTO's own internal verification software. As a result, Checker misses numerous errors that later result in the sequence listing being rejected by the Office. Our recommendation is that Checker be updated to alert users to the same potential errors that are caught by the Office's internal sequence checking software.

Sincerely,

Joseph Schuller, Ph.D. Director, Intellectual Property

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