



Rick Woychik, Ph.D. Director, NIEHS & NTP 111 TW Alexander Dr. Durham, NC 27709

Dear Dr. Woychik,

On behalf of the Endocrine Society, I extend my warmest congratulations to you on your appointment as the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) & National Toxicology Program (NTP). We are confident that the NIEHS & NTP will benefit from your expertise and history of leadership in the academic, private, and public sectors. NIEHS will also continue to be well-served by your research expertise in epigenomic alterations due to environmental exposures. We look forward to working together with you to advance the NIEHS mission and support all programs related to environmental exposures and endocrine disease.

With more than 18,000 members worldwide, the Endocrine Society is dedicated to promoting excellence in research, clinical practice, and education in the field of endocrinology. As you are well aware, environmental exposures play important roles in the prevalence and severity of many endocrine diseases, including cancer, diabetes, thyroid disease, and infertility. Endocrine Society members receive funding through NIEHS to study how environmental exposures, in particular endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs), can impact endocrine systems and contribute to the incidence and progression of disease. The Endocrine Society's Annual Meeting, ENDO, showcases the latest EDC-research from investigators around the world in poster presentations, oral symposia, news conferences, and other venues.

Our members are passionate about our work to expand the impact of NIEHS-supported research by sharing the latest research findings with patients, clinicians, policymakers, and other audiences. As co-chair of the Friends of NIEHS, we are strong supporters of increased funding to NIEHS and ensuring that the Congress is aware of the valuable work that you and your colleagues do and support. We were proud to help organize the October 2017 briefing on environmental exposures and autoimmune disorders that you participated in, and we look forward to continuing to work with you to enhance public appreciation for NIEHS' unique role at NIH.

We congratulate you on serving the Institute in this leadership role and we offer our continuing support to you and NIEHS as a resource and working partner. Should you have any questions, or if there is anything we can do to assist you, please contact Joe Laakso, PhD, Director of Science Policy, at <u>jlaakso@endocrine.org</u>.

Sincerely,

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Gary D. Hammer, MD, PhD President Endocrine Society

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