

Memo/Reply From
JOSHUA LEDERBERG

TO: Paul Deisler
Shell.

APR - 6 1981

... Threshold Controversy 3/23

Thank you for your letter, and the ms.
My main comment is that it is a very
lucid statement and I agreed with all of it.
Perhaps I would stress even more strongly
(if that is possible) how futile is the
argument without more theoretical clarity
about mechanisms. No empirical
study is going to be generalizable or other-
wise useful if it doesn't rest upon, or
at least clarify, understanding of mechanisms.
One approach to PPT is neutrality of
health effects - namely that the health
impact of all costs (including opportunity
cost) of regulation to a given level not
exceed the imputed benefit of
exposure to the same.

Yours,
Joshua Lederberg

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JOSHUA LEDERBERG

TO: P.D.

APR - 6 1981

P.S.

I would like to think of a way
to pursue this possibility
had to be able to make a
stronger etiological statement than
"appears to be involved".

(You did state this with
appropriate caution.)

Joshua Lederberg

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