



American
Physical
Society

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Igor Sutyagin
FGU IK-1
27 Pirsovaya St.
Arkhangelsk, 163950
The Russian Federation

Dear Dr. Sutyagin,

Every year, the Science and Human Rights Program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) honors one or more scientists who have promoted human rights. In 2006, the AAAS has chosen to honor you. As President of the American Physical Society (APS), I write to join the AAAS in its recognition of you and to express the Society's support.

Ever since you were first detained in October 1999, the American Physical Society's Committee on International Freedom of Scientists (CIFS) has watched your situation closely. CIFS is charged by the APS with monitoring the human rights of scientists around the world and advocating on behalf of those requiring assistance. During the more than six years that you have been in jail, CIFS has written to Russian officials several times to express its deep concerns regarding your circumstances. These concerns remain and are even greater than they were in 1999.

We are aware that there have been significant violations of legal procedures in your trials and incarceration, and that your human rights, as defined by international agreements signed by Russia, have been violated.

As scientists, we ardently defend the right of all researchers to study open sources of information and to publish freely their results and analyses.

The APS recognizes the injustices that you have suffered. We remained steadfast in our support and are pleased to join the AAAS in supporting your cause.

Sincerely,

John J. Hopfield
President