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PHILIP MORRIS STATEMENT CONCERNING ALLEGATIONS FROM VICTOR DeNOBLE

NEW YORK, Sept. 26 – While Dr. DeNoble may now believe that nicotine is "addictive," that was not his view while he worked as a research scientist for Philip Morris. In fact, Dr. DeNoble consistently reported to his supervisors within the company that, in his opinion, nicotine was not "addictive" and that nicotine did not create a physical dependency.

Additionally, Dr. DeNoble reported to his supervisors that his research showed that stopping the administration of nicotine in rats did not create symptoms of physiological withdrawal and that, in his opinion, nicotine did not fit the accepted criteria for drug dependence.

In 1988, when he was no longer employed by the company, Dr. DeNoble testified in a civil case that he told his supervisors that nicotine is a reinforcer in the class of "nonaddictive" chemical compounds such as saccharin and water, an opinion he continued to hold in 1988.

And, last year, Dr. DeNoble testified under oath before a House subcommittee and reaffirmed that he reported to his supervisors at Philip Morris his findings that nicotine is not "addictive."

Documents relating to Dr. DeNoble's research, as well as those relating to his opinions, have been preserved by the company, and have been provided to the House subcommittee.