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**COVANCE ANNOUNCES CONCLUSION OF U.S. FOOD AND DRUG
ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE INSPECTIONS
OF ITS VIENNA, VA FACILITY**

Princeton, NJ, March 31, 2006 – Covance announced today that the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) completed its inspection of the Vienna, Virginia facility, which resulted in no findings to substantiate any claims made against the facility. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) also completed an extensive inspection of the facility with five inspectors and investigators spending more than five weeks onsite and reviewing hundreds of documents. In contrast to the 700 allegations made by PETA, there were only sixteen citations ranging from administrative issues to scope of veterinary authority. None of the issues cited by the USDA were declared to be pervasive or endemic problems. While Covance does not agree with some of the citations, the company has agreed to a settlement of \$8,720.

Covance is pleased to bring this matter to a conclusion. Throughout the inspections, Covance fully cooperated with the FDA and USDA authorities, and has always stated that if there are legitimate issues, the company will act promptly and accordingly to resolve them. The organization takes very seriously both our regulatory obligations and our commitments to the ethical treatment of animals in the biomedical research. Covance has already taken the necessary steps to resolve these citations brought by the USDA.

Covance has had a strong track record of regulatory compliance for more than 50 years, and remains committed to holding ourselves to high standards of regulatory compliance and animal welfare in helping to develop new medicines for people who need them. The facility in question has passed three consecutive prior unannounced inspections with no citations at all. Biomedical research, including the research conducted at Vienna and other Covance facilities that use animals, is essential and legally required to assure that new medicines are safe and effective.

Covance, with headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, is one of the world's largest and most comprehensive drug development services companies with annual revenues greater than \$1 billion, global operations in more than 20 countries, and more than 7,300 employees worldwide. Information on Covance's products and services, recent press releases, and SEC filings can be obtained through its website at www.covance.com.