dollars was spent on legal briefs, preparing reports for government agencies, running public education events for the local citizenry, and preparing a multi-hundred-page environmental impact report. During the testing, vandals uprooted 100 potato plants, which the scientists had to replant, and paid security guards had to be placed around the test plot.

One of the most striking comments made by a local group of officials in one of the small towns near the test site, was that the research would have no beneficial effect on their community. Considering that the "community" is mainly engaged in farming, and that the ice-minus bacteria would protect some of their crops, this was a truly irrational statement.

Ice-minus research is of interest to other countries of the world. Extending the geographic region where produce can be grown is one of the potential benefits of this technology, in addition to saving a portion of the food that is now grown but lost to frost. It is certainly possible, though distressing, that this work, which was pioneered in the United States, may have to be applied somewhere else first.

Biotechnology research sabotaged for four years

Sept. 17, 1982 Scientists apply to the National Institute of Health (NIH) for field-test approval.

Oct. 24, 1982 NIH Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee meeting, with the public invited to attend and comment.

Jan. 10, 1983 NIH approval is withheld due to concerns expressed at the Advisory Committee meeting.

March 3, 1983 Scientists submit a revised proposal for testing.

June 1, 1983 NIH grants permission for testing.

Sept. 14, 1983 Lawsuit filed against NIH claiming violation of EPA and Council on Environmental Quality regulations, by Jeremy Rifkin, et al.

Sept. 30, 1983 The university classifies the field test as categorically exempt from CEQ oversight.

May 16, 1984 U.S. District Court enjoins NIH from approving the deliberate release of recombinant DNA products until it reaches final judgment on potential environmental impact.

Dec. 27, 1984 Scientists notify the EPA of intent to conduct field tests.

Dec. 31, 1984 Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House publishes proposal under which certain deliberate releases of recombinant DNA may go to the EPA for approval, instead of NIH.

Jan. 21, 1985 NIH releases their evaluation that there is "no significant impact" for the experiment.

Feb. 15, 1985 EPA risk assessment states there is slight risk but insufficient evidence to proceed.

March 15, 1985 EPA recommends the university have an Experimental Use Permit (EUP).

April 24-May 17,1985 NIH receives letters on the need for an Environmental Impact Statement.

Dec. 17, 85 At legal status conference, NIH agrees to follow EPA for recombinant DNA research and the university will not challenge the EPA decision to require an EUP.

Dec. 30, 1985 EUP application submitted by Lindow.

March 7, 1986 EPA sends out EUP for review by Scientific Advisory Panel, and other federal agencies.

April 17, 1986 EPA personnel do on-site inspection at field station Tulelake.

April 21, 1986 In Federal District Court, plaintiffs agree to vacate a preliminary injunction preventing NIH from approving other deliberate release of recombinant DNA material without EPA approval.

May 1, 1986 An initial date is proposed for the experiment.

May 12, 1986 EPA grants the EUP application.

June 2, 1986 Modoc County Board of Supervisors passes resolution opposing the experiment.

June 11, 1986 Siskiyou County Board passes resolution opposing the experiment.

July 23, 1986 University issues press release on intention to proceed with experiment on Aug. 6.

Aug. 1, 1986 Californians for Responsible Toxics Management of Tulake apply for restraining order, which is denied.

Aug. 4, 1986 Same group reapplies again, to a different judge.

Aug. 19, 1986 Legal agreement reached that the University will conduct further environmental review before proceeding with the field test experiment.

Sept. 18, 1986 Notice of Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) by the university.

Oct., 1986 University places ads in local newspapers announcing public meetings.

Oct. 16, 1986 University holds public meeting on "community concerns."

Oct. 25, 1986 University sends notices describing the test to 2,500 post office addresses in the area.

Dec. 17, 1986 University issues draft EIR.

Spring 1987 Experimental testing begins.