On February 15, 2002, Schering Corporation, the owner of record in the United States Patent and Trademark Office of U.S. Patent No. 4,659,716, filed an application under 35 U.S.C. § 156, requesting an extension of 1,074 days. The original expiration date of the patent is April 21, 2004. The patent claims the active ingredient desloratadine of the human drug product "CLARINEX®," and the method of use of said product. The application indicates, and the Food and Drug Administration has confirmed, that the product has undergone a regulatory review under Section 505 or 507 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. § 355) before the first permitted commercial use or sale of the product.

Review of the application indicates that the subject patent is eligible for an extension of the patent term under 35 U.S.C. § 156. Since it is apparent that processing of the application for patent term extension was not completed before the date of expiration of the patent, interim extension of the patent term is appropriate.

An interim extension under 35 U.S.C. § 156(e)(2) of the term of U.S. Patent No. 4,659,716 is granted for a period of one year from the original expiration date of the patent, until April 21, 2005.

Date  6/24/04

Jon W. Dudas
Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Acting Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office