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WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898

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June 28, 1984

TO: *J. C. BESPERKA

FROM: *J. W. RAINES

C-8 ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS - WASHINGTON WORKS

On June 15, I reviewed the environmental status of C-8 in a meeting attended by addressees marked with an asterisk. The following significant points were brought out in the meeting:

Summary

1) We have C-8 under control in the work environment. Air monitoring results are all below the AEL of .01 mg/M^3 (.56 ppb).

2) Fluorocarbon area employees' blood concentrations are still coming down.

3) There are no known medical problems resulting from exposure to C-8.

4) C-8 discharged to the river will be drastically reduced by substituting telomer B sulfonic acid (TBSA) for C-8 in the FEP process. The switch should be fully implemented by 3Q'85.

   Appropriate toxicity tests on TBSA have been completed. A toxicity literature review on a class of perfluoronated hydrides (R_fH), which will be generated and emitted to the atmosphere as a result

4) (cont'd)

of the proposed process change, failed to disclose significant data. Tests will be run on these hydrides to confirm their innocuous nature.

5) With respect to C-8 air emissions, two potential abatement processes were identified: (1) thermal destruction and (2) recovery and reuse. Both require high investment, fairly long development time, and high operating cost (unless reuse of C-8 is feasible). Concern was expressed about continued emission of C-8 to the atmosphere, and it was agreed that technical work aimed at abatement would be assigned higher priority with a determination to stop the C-8 emissions if either of the identified processes were proven to be practical.

Path Forward

- Meet with 3M on June 22.

  I attended this meeting along with Haskell personnel. 3M's air monitoring and blood sampling programs have been slightly modified. They raised the permissible exposure limit from .02 mg/M^3 to .1 mg/M^3 when C-8 was shown not to be teratogenic. Employees whose blood has less than 1 ppm total organic fluorine are tested annually. Those above 1 ppm are tested every 6 months. The two-year rat feeding test was completed. Pathology is underway and the report is expected 1Q'85. So far there was nothing of obvious concern. Personnel in the meeting knew of no abatement program at 3M.

- Continue the program on switching to TBSA. Determine toxicity of its decomposition products.

- Review the technical program on air emissions abatement to see where it can be expedited, and determine manpower requirements for simultaneous execution of various program elements.

- Review with other interested industrial departments.

- Develop talking points in case publicity develops.

- Review with PPD group Vice President. (Meeting scheduled July 18 at 10:00. Invitations issued separately.)

- Review with EQC. To be scheduled later.

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