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TO: H. G. SMYTH

FROM: L. E. WYCHE

May 12, 1982

WEEKLY NOTES

Fluoride in Blood

Seven of eight Experimental Station employees whose blood was tested showed organic fluoride levels ranging from 0 ppm in one case to 3.3 ppm in another, with an average of 1.5 ppm. The organic fluorine source was identified as by-products of HFPO (hexafluoropropylene oxide) synthesis. A review of the medical records of the eight individuals indicated an incidence of albuminuria, kidney stones, and hypertension that suggested further work was needed.

The process which used HFPO was moved from the Experimental Station to the Fayetteville Plant in 1979.

The following program is being implemented:

- Identify and review the records of exposed employees at the Experimental Station (50) and Fayetteville (55).
- Communicate with employees on May 18.
- Informal contact with EPA on May 18.
- Increase the blood sampling program for employees at the Station and Fayetteville.
- Initiate an epidemiology study.
- Undertake appropriate toxicity tests.
- Review waste disposal contractor procedures for handling the HFPO by-products waste.

The committee which handled the C-8 problem in 1981 has been reactivated and is handling this issue. John Smith of PPD is Chairman.

Dr. Ligo Presentation

Dr. Ligo has been asked by The Committee on Synthetic Fuels Facilities Safety of the National Research Council for permission to publish the paper he presented at their meeting in La Jolla, CA, in 1/82.

Du Pont Physicians Meeting

The Annual Du Pont Physicians Meeting begins Wednesday, May 12, at the Du Pont Country Club. There are 223 attendees preregistered for this year's joint meeting of physicians and Employee Relations Superintendents.

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