

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

FEB 20 1976

RL 412 (EPA)
OFFICE of
Research &
HEE-1, Development
STUDIES & other
Related RECORDS
ASSESSING THE
HEALTH & Ecologic
EFFECTS of
POLLUTION.
1971-1977
HEE-1 1973-76
Box 1

Mrs Carrie L. Hogue
10510 East Lynrose Street
Temple City, California 91780

Dear Mrs. Hogue:

This is in response to your letter of February 5, 1976, inquiring about the possibility of your father's cancer being caused by exposure to emissions from the vinyl chloride plants in Painesville, Ohio. We are truly sorry that both your father and his friend passed away as a result of cancer.

From the history you communicated to us, it appears that there is a possibility that your father's urogenital cancer, and your mother's miscarriage, may have resulted from your father's extended exposure to the emissions of the vinyl chloride plants, though it is hard for us to give you a definitive answer.

Currently, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is involved in a continuing effort to establish emission levels for vinyl chloride and other ubiquitous pollutants which pose a threat to man and the environment. Hopefully, through EPA's efforts, there will be a substantial decrease in the number and severity of these harmful effects.

I am sorry that we are unable to give you a concrete answer to your question. Hopefully, you can understand that we are unable to make such judgements with so little information available.

Again, we wish to express our regret over your father's death. If I can be of any further assistance to you in the future, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Original signed by:
Ronald E. Engel, Ph.D.,
Ronald E. Engel, Ph.D.,
Director
Health Effects Division

CONCURRENCES

SYMBOL	DATE	NAME	DATE	NAME	DATE	NAME	DATE	NAME	DATE
HED	2/20/76	McNeil	2/20/76	Engel					

EPA FORM 1320-1

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RD-683:JMcNeil:dm:x 55670:2-20-76

John McNeil
HED Reading
HED Subject
JEL/2

CC:

10510 E. Sepulveda St.
 Temple City, Calif.
 91780
 Feb 5, 1976

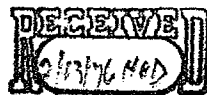
EPA Administrator:
 Russell Train.

Dear Sir:

Yesterday morning I watched with
 saddening interest the pictures on the
 Today Show news of vinyl chloride plants
 in Painesville, Ohio. I believe they said
 one had shut down after being in service
 for thirty years. My father Arthur M. ~~Finn~~^{Finnin}
 Sr. died on Feb 15, 1953, of cancer of the
 spermatic cord. He was employed by the
 Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and during the
 summer when the work ^{was slow} out of our
 home on New Castle, Penna, he and a
 friend lived in a Caboose, in Painesville,
 Ohio during the summer, where there was
 more work. He was employed by the
 B & O Railroad from 1943 or 1944 until his
 death. His friend whose name I can't
 recall also died of cancer. Also the
 enclosed article appeared in our local
 paper the San Gabriel Valley Tribune. It
 makes me wonder, if perhaps the cancer

my father died of, was caused in any way by being exposed to the pollution from the vinyl chloride plants in Painesville, Ohio. He was 54 and left a wife and eight children. I was 21 and my youngest brother was nine. My mother also had a miscarriage approximately 1946, to my knowledge it was the only one she had ever had. My father had surgery at the Cleveland Clinic in May or June 1952, when they discovered the cancer.

Sincerely yours,
Carrie L. Hogue



11/1/77
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(1977)
Box 1

OCT 31 1977

MEMORANDUM

TO : David Hawkins, Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Waste Management

Jody Bernstein, Assistant Administrator
Office of General Counsel

FROM : Elizabeth L. Anderson, Executive Director
Carcinogen Assessment Group

SUBJECT: Clarification of Vinyl Chloride Item on the
Carcinogen Assessment Group Agenda

In view of our discussion this morning of the Carcinogen Assessment Group's current activities, I would like to clarify the status of the vinyl chloride agenda item.

The agency proposed amendments to the vinyl chloride standards in the Federal Register on June 2, 1977. The written responses to the proposal are now being received, and the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) has asked the CAG to review the carcinogenesis issues raised by the respondents. The schedule for EPA's analysis of the responses is currently being worked out, but a preliminary estimate by personnel in OAQPS is that perhaps by January 1, 1978, the CAG's analysis will be expected. A letter confirming this schedule is expected sometime this week.

cc: CRU
CAG: Chron
RMcGaughy:lmf:10/31/77:km 3829

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OFFICE Research &
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EFFECTS &
Pollution
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(1977)
Box 1

SUBJECT: ORD Presentation at Regional Administrator's Meeting

FROM: Elizabeth L. Anderson, Executive Director
Carcinogen Assessment Group (RD-689)

TO: Michael L. Mastracci, Director
Regional Services Staff (RD-680)

Attached is the Carcinogen Assessment Group Summary requested by your October 12, 1977, memo. The additional information requested by your October 20th memo follows:

1. Mission:

The Cancer Assessment Group is a small group of senior scientists, with a liaison from The National Cancer Institute, whose purpose is to advise the Administrator and Agency program officials on the health risks associated with the use of suspect carcinogens. The Carcinogen Assessment Group provides assessments on the oncogenic potential of suspect agents as well as an estimate of the potential cancer risk, should the agent go unregulated. The CAG also provides advice and comment on proposed Agency regulations or guidelines which seek to reduce exposure to carcinogens.

2. Recent Accomplishments:

(a) The CAG was established in July, 1976 as a review group for all Agency decisions involving cancer risks. (i.e., Water Quality, Water Supply, Air, Pesticides, Radiation and Toxics).

(b) Twenty-three (23) preliminary reports have been prepared on the potential carcinogenicity of pesticides in the environment, which provided the basis for the pesticides office to issue Many Rebuttable Presumptions Against Registration (MPAR's).

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(c) Fourteen (14) risk assessments were completed during FY '77. Chemicals such as Dibromochloropropane, Kepone, Coke Oven emissions, and Benzene were analyzed by the CAG. Many of these risk assessments have provided the impetus for regulatory action; for others these assessments have triggered the standard setting process.

(d) The CAG established close working relationships with The National Cancer Institute (NCI), The National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR), and the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). These ties, as well as ties with major U.S. universities, assure the Agency of input and review by many of the top cancer experts in the country.

(e) As part of its assistance to the Pesticide Re-Registration process, the CAG prepared a risk assessment on Chlordane/Heptachlor for use in the Agency's administrative concellation hearings. The CAG risk assessment was considered a major part of the EPA's case during the hearings. The CAG document was subsequently supported in a review by the National Academy of Science.

(f) During FY '77, the CAG provided guidance and comment on several proposed Agency standards and regulations involving carcinogenicity. Specifically, the CAG reviewed and made recommendations on proposed Pesticide Testing Protocols, Guidelines on Transuranium Elements, Vinyl Chloride Standards, and the Drinking Water Standards for Haloforms.

(g) The CAG is currently participating in the Interagency Regulatory Liaison Group a cooperative effort by Federal regulatory agencies to base their regulations on some shared scientific principles. The CAG representative has been asked to chair the Sub-Committee on Criteria for Determining Carcinogenicity.

3. Regionally Related Projects:

(a) The CAG prepared a health risk assessment due to a Trichloro-ethylene discharge for Region I.

(b) The CAG prepared a risk assessment and commented on a proposed enforcement action resulting from Vinyl Chloride emissions from a plant in Region IX.

(c) The CAG analyzed data and reported on the potential health risk involved from contamination of Philadelphia wastewater for Region III.

(d) Nitrosamine discharge levels were evaluated for their potential health risk at the request of Region V.

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SYMBOL	(e)	The CAG is currently preparing a full analysis of the					
SURNAME	possible	cancer risk from the uses of PPE's for Region II.					
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4. Biographical Sketch - Chairman, Carcinogen Assessment Group

- o Roy E. Albert
- o Chairman, CAG
Deputy Director, School of Environmental Health
NYU Medical Center, NY University
- o M.D. from New York University College of Medicine
in 1946
- o Chief Health Advisor to the Administrator, EPA
July 1976 to present.
- o DAA for Health and Ecological Effects, Office of Research
and Development, EPA - July 1975 to 1976

See attached Curriculum Vitae

cc: CAG/Reading
CAG/Subject
CRU ✓
B. Anderson

RD689:K.Libby:1b:X53039:WSM3700:11877

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