

HASKELL LABORATORY FOR TOXICOLOGY
AND INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE

April 19, 1991

TO: B.W. KARRH, D-2042
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RECEIVED
APR 22 1991
BRUCE W. KARRH, M.D.

FROM: C.F. REINHARDT, M.D. *CFR*

Attached is a draft of a proposed addendum to the hazard determination letter on lead.

I have incorporated comments from Jerry Brenner.

May I please have your comments/approval. I will be away the next two weeks so please forward your comments to Mark Hurtt. Thanks,

CFR:dj
Attachment

*No Comments / No
objection
Mark Hurtt*

DRAFT

LEAD

Addendum to Hazard Determination of 7/10/89

Lead and lead compounds were reviewed July 10, 1989 according to the corporate guidelines for control of carcinogenic, reproductive, developmental and germ-cell mutagenic risks posed by chemicals made or used within Du Pont.

That review concluded that lead and its compounds should be handled as reproductive and developmental hazards which represented a continuation of the practice already in place. However, the recommendation was made for women of child bearing capability to avoid exposures to lead above background as measured by blood lead. In the United States blood lead levels average about 10 µg/dL.

The recent Supreme Court decision in the Johnson Controls case prohibits all fetal protection policies that preclude women from obtaining certain jobs.

Therefore as a guide to protect the fetus, woman of child bearing capability who might elect to work with lead and its compounds should be advised to avoid adding lead to their normal body burden as measured by blood lead levels. In other words, when background levels, as reflected by blood lead measurements for that geographic area are significantly exceeded, the women should be advised to consider other assignments that would not expose them to lead.