

ESSO STANDARD OIL COMPANY

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April 30, 1954

Re: Examination of Tetraethyl
Lead Workers

Dr. R. C. Page
General Medical Director
Medical Department
Room 2400, 30 RP

Dear Dr. Page:

During the Industrial Medical Association meetings, I took occasion to discuss with Dr. Kehoe and various members of the Esso medical staff the examination of lead tetraethyl workers by Du Pont and Ethyl Corporation physicians. We were in agreement that it would be desirable to integrate these examinations, as we have most other toxicity examinations, with the over-all periodic health examination program. While it was agreed by all that our present staff is professionally competent and adequate in numbers to assume the responsibility, we all recognized that such might not be the case next month or next year. Then too, we recognize that Drs. Kehoe and Gehrmann have a personal and professional responsibility to the U. S. Public Health Service to make sure that the protective program is maintained at its present effective level.

Two other activities are vital to this protective program, the periodic industrial hygiene surveys and the educational efforts directed at the worker. Previous discussions with you and the Du Pont people did not include consideration of these important activities. Our Esso medical staff is in complete agreement that we do not wish to assume responsibility for these.

We do believe the doctors could assume increased responsibility for the "toxicity" examinations so that these might be integrated with the remainder of the examination program. This would best be done at the discretion of, and possibly under the supervision of, the visiting "lead" doctors who might then be considered consultants. They might review the medical records of tetraethyl lead workers at the time of their plant visits, or as confidence and rapport are established, do mere spot checks. Certainly

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the local plant physician would be expected to call attention to any irregularities or unusual findings so that these might be discussed.

I assume that this entire matter will receive further consideration, and we shall await further word from you before deviating from present practices.

Sincerely yours,

LW:RH

LEO WADE, M. D.

cc Mr. William Naden
Esso Medical Staff

Blind copy for Dr. Kehoe.