

cc: P. J. Grunwald
J. H. Turnure

November 17, 1979

Dr. William G. Kennedy, Jr.
70 Whitestone Lane
Rochester, New York 14618

Dear Dr. Kennedy:

Your letter to the Du Pont Company has been sent to me for reply.

The Du Pont Company has long recognized its responsibility to insure that its products present no unusual hazard to the consumer. Lucite® Wall Paint and Interior Enamel contains no lead and a maximum of 0.02% mercury based on paint solids. This is in conformance with 266.1-1964, American Standard Specifications to Minimize Hazards to Children from Residential Surface Coating Materials, which specifies a maximum concentration of 1% lead and 0.06% mercury in coatings used on articles where the dry film might be ingested by children.

Lucite® Exterior House paints may contain up to 0.12% mercury based on solids. Lead is not used in any Lucite® exterior paints with the exception of Lucite® Latex Wood Primer which is specially formulated for use on redwood, cedar, mahogany and fir plywood to resist staining. No satisfactory substitute for this primer has as yet been found.

The Du Pont Company recognizes the desirability of removing all mercury from the Lucite® line of paints. Major effort is being made to replace the mercury compounds (which are used to prevent growth of microorganisms in the paint) with equally effective but less toxic metal-free substitutes. We expect to remove all mercury from the Lucite® line of house paints in the future.

If you desire further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

William W. Miller
Toxicity & Pollution Control Coordinator

WWM:lbw

N38467