

" Monsanto

FROM Springfield  
April 19, 1974  
SUBJECT VCM CONTROL ACTIVITY STATUS  
REFERENCE  
TO R. L. Bourget

cc: RECummings  
GW Fletcher  
KWH

2D

Attached is a listing of activities currently underway. Good progress has been made during the past week with priority effort going toward correcting point source pick-ups in Buildings 84, 88 and their adjoining storage tank areas. Immediate equipment close-up and temporary vapor removal systems are complete with minor refinements underway. Light weight wall panels have been removed and windows and doors opened for Building 88 RVCM pump room and Buildings 87 and 82.

Three immediate concern areas are being followed up:

- 1) acceptability of Coppus blowers for hazardous application,
- 2) re-design of paste drier exhaust fan discharge, and
- 3) acceptability of aluminum flame arrestor internals for VCM.

Design of permanent point source exhaust systems are proceeding for Buildings 84 and 88, equipment is ordered with 7/15 completion--fan delivery limiting. Long term design of ventilation systems for Buildings 84 and 88 has not been started.

VCM metering equipment procurement by R.H.Cloutman will be ready for final decision on fixed gas chromatographs w/e 4/28.

Two portable "Century" units remain on order for 5/15 delivery.

A commercially available personal unit has been found with decision on procurement w/e 4/28. Meanwhile, plant development equipment continues in use.

RSV 0020168

K. W. Howes/k

## INSTRUMENTATION

### Fixed VCM Monitors

Bldg.#84 - R.L.Bourget requested purchase of new Bendix gas chromatograph (=\$15M) ≈14 week delivery, plus 6 to 8 point sample system. Firm review with Bendix 4/13 with final plant discussions for ordering w/e 4/28.

Bldg.#88 - R.L.Bourget desires adaptation of in-house Beckman unit from Building 86 with Bendix sample system. Review for decision w/e 4/28.

### Portable Monitors

Order for 2 Century units placed 4/5 for 5/15 delivery; one to separate THF and FCM for #88, one for total hydrocarbons for #84.

### Personal Monitor

Cloutman contacted by "Sipin Company" for OSHA - NIOSH approved 9 oz., 8 hour capacity pocket unit costing \$300 each, with one month delivery -- this alternate to be followed up by Gendron since OSHA uses it for their inspections.

Plant developed systems are usable.

## POINT SOURCE PICK-UPS

Building 84 Kettle Manhole Venting - temporary - Coppus blowers

- Double ball valves installed on spare nozzles)
- Nozzle to hose adapters underway ) system operable
- Portable fan base done )
- Additional Arc Tite receptacles installed throughout

Building 88 Kettle Manhole Venting - temporary

- System complete and in use
- Problem THF attacks flex. rubber hose--seeking replacement

Building 88 Slurry Hold Tanks

- Manhole covers modified with double sight glass and H<sub>2</sub>O flush
- Covers gasketed and wing-nutted (improved nuts by 5/3)
- Flame arrestors checked and clear
- Overflows via water seal installed to prevent over-pressuring tanks

Building 88 RVCM Tank Bleed to stack

- Work scheduled to be complete 4/26

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#### **Building 84 Latex and Seed Tanks**

- Manhole covers gasketed and wing-nutted (improved nuts by 5/3)
- Flame arrestors checked, cleared and elevated
- No overflows needed

#### **Building 84 Pre-Blend Tank**

- Manhole cover modified with double sight glass and H<sub>2</sub>O flush
- Covers gasketed and wing-nutted (improved nuts by 5/3)
- Flame arrestors checked, cleared and elevated--second unit added
- Overflow via water seal added

#### **Building 84 Product Tanks**

- Manhole covers gasketed and wing-nutted (improved nuts by 5/3)
- Flame arrestors checked, cleared and elevated

#### **Building 84 Concentrating Tanks**

- Manhole covers gasketed and wing-nutted (improved nuts by 5/3)

#### **Building 84 Post-Blend Tanks**

- Manhole tanks gasketed and wing-nutted (improved nuts by 5/3)
- Sight glass installed--no water flush unless needed

#### **Building 84 RVCM Tank Bleed to Stack**

- Work scheduled to be complete 4/26

#### **Long Term**

Building 84 Kettle Manhole venting plus various point pick-ups  
Design complete - fan ordered - completion 7/15

Building 88 Kettle Manhole venting plus various point pick-ups  
Design to be complete 4/26  
Fan ordered - completion 7/15

#### **Building Ventilation**

##### **Short Term**

Building 84 - 1 smoke fan and 2 Coppus blowers running to prevent gas pocketing

Building 87 - Building 88 RVCM Room - Building 82 (Pump House) - 3 sections of panel removed and permanently open, may require further opening if VCM levels warrant - need cold weather protection

Building 84, Drier Discharge Extension - Total stack redesign underway - existing unit found cracked at connection to fan - will need to change fan operation to achieve necessary velocity - no timing now.

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##### **Long Term**

Small effort expended in this area. An extensive engineering study required to specify optimum systems.