

February 19, 1954

Mr. E. L. Shea
Ethyl Corporation
100 Park Avenue Building
New York City 17

Dear Mr. Shea:

In response to your letter, I refer, briefly, to the contributions which have been and are being made by Ethyl Corporation to the general problem of the pollution of the atmosphere of our cities with community and industrial wastes, and give you my opinion as to the extent to which the Corporation should share in the further expenditures of American industry toward the solution of the existing problems, including those which are now so prominent in Southern California.

The work which the Corporation has sponsored in the Kettering Laboratory on this subject began in a small way in 1940, was interrupted by the war during the years 1943 to 1949, and has continued since at a somewhat accelerating pace, at a cost to Ethyl Corporation up to 1954, of approximately \$80,000.00. Without being expansive, I may say that the experience of this Laboratory was gained at Ethyl's expense, was extended at Ethyl's expense well beyond the scope of Ethyl's own problems, and is now being put to fruitful use by industry, including the petroleum industry. With no wish to be selfish or short-sighted, I may also say that I believe it is wise for Ethyl Corporation to continue, as its main contribution to this important matter, to support the work of the Kettering Laboratory. As you are well aware, I have proposed that this work be expanded in 1954 and 1955, to something like twice the 1953 level of expenditure. A goodly part of what we propose to do will be of service to industry generally, and to the American community, generally, quite as much as to Ethyl Corporation. (I am speaking here, not of toxicological work which bears indirectly on this subject, but of the field investigations of the Laboratory which apply directly to the pollution of community atmosphere.)

As you are aware, the various laboratories of Ethyl Corporation have contributed greatly to work in this field, somewhat in collaboration with this Laboratory on specific problems, but more in the application of the work to communities in which Ethyl's plants are located. You can find out the very considerable cost of these investigations more readily than I, and I refer to them only to indicate that Ethyl Corporation has been in the forefront of American industries in the study of its own problems of this type, and in the acquisition of generally useful information.

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For these reasons, I am being only candid when I say that Ethyl Corporation was a pioneer in the recognition and investigation of the problems of community air pollution, and that it has borne a full share of the expense of studying and solving these problems. It has made plans to continue its efforts in this direction, not only to satisfy its own needs, but also, in so doing, to be of assistance to other industries, particularly the petroleum and automotive industries with which its activities are so closely identified.

With these matters in mind, I should say that the contribution of Ethyl Corporation to the Southern California Air Pollution Foundation should be of nominal proportions, in token of its interest in this localized situation and of its willingness to share the common burdens of industry there.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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