



CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

February 25, 1994

Ron Gilbert
Westlake Polymers
2801 Post Oak Blvd.
Houston, TX 77056

For Distribution by
CHEMICAL COUNCIL
From H. Shaff
Ref. No. VCRC
Date 2/2/94

Dear Mr. Gilbert:

The Chemical Manufacturers Association Vinyl Chloride Panel is considering a second update of the vinyl chloride epidemiology study. This is a very important undertaking to resolve some scientific issues arising from the first update. The original study was comprised of employees working in vinyl chloride and polyvinyl chloride operations from 1942 to 1972. The mortality experience of these workers was updated to 1982. The following documents are enclosed to familiarize you with the study and scientific issues concerning the update:

- 1) Vinyl Chloride Panel commitment form;
- 2) February 14, 1994 Record of Meeting;
- 3) December 9, 1993 Record of Conference Call;
- 4) November 5, 1993 Record of Meeting;
- 5) December 2, 1993 letter from CMA to ENSR;
- 6) February 10, 1994 letter from ENSR;
- 7) Final Report, "An Update of An Epidemiology Study of Vinyl Chloride Workers, 1942-1982";
- 8) February 1989 ENSR Reassessment of Liver Cancer Among Vinyl Chloride Workers;
- 9) An Industry-Wide Epidemiologic Study on Vinyl Chloride Workers, 1942-1982;
- 10) Letter to the Editor, "Diagnostic Bias in Occupational Epidemiologic Studies"; and,
- 11) Letter to the Editor, "Diagnostic Bias in Occupational Epidemiologic Studies: An Example Based on the Vinyl Chloride Literature."

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Currently, there are nine producer companies of vinyl chloride in the U.S. Eight of these companies, except Westlake, are members of the CMA Vinyl Chloride Panel. Your predecessor, BFGoodrich, participated in the original study and the first update. The Panel members invite you to join them in the second update of the vinyl chloride epidemiology study. Please complete the enclosed commitment form for \$3,000 if you decide to join the Vinyl Chloride Panel to update the study. Each company's pro-rata share for the actual study will be determined at a later date.

If your current workers are included in the study cohort through their previous affiliation with BFGoodrich, the proposed update will provide you with important scientific information. On the other hand, even if your more recent workers are not included in the study cohort, your participation in the proposed update will provide your company with information on current scientific issues to aid in better risk management.

I understand from Mr. Frank Borrelli that you plan to attend the next Vinyl Institute meeting in March. I will be happy to meet with you at that time to discuss any of the issues arising from your review of the enclosed material.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 887-1192.

Sincerely,



Hasmukh C. Shah. Ph.D.
Manager, Vinyl Chloride Panel

Enclosures

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