



**INTER - COMPANY AND
OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

RECEIVED

DATE: May 28, 1976
FROM: T. Mekar
DIV / DEPT: Industrial Hygiene
ADDRESS: 990 Kingsmill Parkway
Columbus, Ohio 43229
TELEPHONE: (614) 225-7267

TO: H. L. Parker

MAY 2 1976

DR. A. S. CUMMIN

SUBJECT: VCM - Policy for Women Employees

I have attached a copy of a report concerning vinyl chloride and health prepared by the VCM/PVC Producers Committee of the Society of Plastics Industry (SPI) which I consider an excellent objective background statement.

With respect to vinyl chloride exposures to our workers, our plant levels and control activities are essentially the same as reported on Pages 13 and 14. Extensive and continued medical examinations conducted on all currently and previously exposed vinyl chloride workers at our plants show no person with liver damage from previous and current exposures. I feel, with concurrences from our medical consultant, Dr. Robert B. O'Connor, and the examining physicians at our plant locations, that at the current exposure levels no workers, women included, would be exposed to the angiosarcoma hazard. However, whether or not the exposures will affect the fetus of an exposed pregnant female is still unknown. I call your attention to Item 6 on Pages 2 and 3 and the discussion on birth defects on Pages 16 through 21. You will note that the birth defect issue, whether it be derived from the exposed husband, the woman herself, or both is still a matter to be clearly resolved by the scientific community.

In light of the current controversy, it would seem prudent for us to take the precautionary approach in formulating our policies.

Hence, the basis for our current policy of excluding women of child bearing ages from vinyl chloride.


T. Mekar

TM:bjl
TM-38-76

cc: G. D. Bevis	R. B. O'Connor
A. S. Cummin	H. A. Peed
H. R. Jepsen, Jr.	H. L. Schmidt, Jr.
J. Machalek	J. W. Sheldon
A. L. Miller	File

BOR 010814