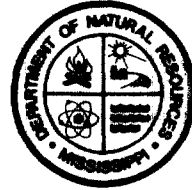




MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Pollution Control
P. O. Box 10385
Jackson, Mississippi 39209
(601) 961-5171



August 9, 1982

Mr. R. A. Frohreich
Chief Process Engineer
Conoco Chemicals Company
P. O. Box 91
Aberdeen, Mississippi 39730

Dear Mr. Frohreich:

The staff has reviewed the company's file recently with regard to releases of vinyl chloride to the atmosphere in possible violation of regulations. Since 1979, there has been a dramatic decrease in the amount of vinyl chloride released to the atmosphere from rupture discs/relief valves. Any releases of vinyl chloride to the atmosphere are of great concern to the Bureau.

The files indicate that the predominant cause of the vinyl chloride releases has been overpressurization of a system. It is recognized that the cause of a release is not repeated which indicates prompt, effective action by the company to correct any deficiency; however, one must question if sufficient precautions are being taken to foresee and prevent future vinyl chloride releases. Therefore, we request that you conduct a review of all operating procedures and other methods at your disposal for assessing potential areas of vinyl chloride release and submit a report of your findings to the Bureau.

If you have any questions, please advise.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerry B. Banks".

Jerry B. Banks, P. E., Coordinator
North Air Emissions Section

JBB:els

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