

Dear Ellen,

Please forgive the long delay in returning this statement to you. Have tried to clear up some items in the copy you sent. As you can readily see, I'm no typist,- so if you require a "clean" copy, I'll be glad to sign it.

Under seperate cover, I have mailed the two PVC mortality studies Keith asked for, and a plant bulletin board notice KOSHA produced to cover them.

Please don't hesitate to call with any questions.....



July 13, 1988

My name is Ruth Griffith. My address is 70 Chatham Street, Apartment #2, Chicopee, Massachusetts, 01013. I was born on December 3rd, 1923. I have a high school education. At the present time, I am unemployed.

I worked in the Control Laboratory at the Monsanto Indian Orchard plant from April 1943 to July 1982, when I retired because of poor health. Beginning as a Laboratory Assistant, I also held assignments as Senior Lab Analyst, Lead Analyst, Lab Analyst A and finally, Quality Control Analyst. I have a statement attached hereto and incorporated herein which sets forth an accurate record of my complete job history, and three other statements which describe my job responsibilities as Lab Assistant, Analyst A, and Senior Analyst. All of these documents were supplied to me by Monsanto.

From 1967 until 1972, as a Lab Analyst A, I worked in the raw materials testing section of the East Control Lab, where my duties included the testing of vinyl chloride monomer. (VCM). VCM samples were delivered to the lab in pressure-tested glass containers, called bombs, by the tank-farm operator. Sampling of railroad tank cars was usually done on the 3-11 shift, tested on the 11-7 shift, and pumped to production VCM storage tanks on the day shift. Since I worked on a rotating shift, and 11-7 one third of the time, my VCM testing occurred at this same frequency, - 1/3. At this time, from 2 to 5 tank cars were sampled and tested for contamination, polyrate (a kind of preview of how the VCM would react in the kettle), acidity and iron. All tests were run on liquid VCM, which had been kept in a dry-ice chest between its arrival in the lab, and its testing time. Each sample had been identified by the tank farm operator as to tank car number, and date, and also logged into the East Control Lab Sample Log, which also included time delivered. At least until early 1970's, when the PVC production was being phased out, every VCM tank car was sampled and tested for quality before being used in production.

Sometime in 1968, I was told by a supervisor that I would be testing VCM samples from other suppliers, in addition to Monsanto's Texas City plant. Tank car numbers from Monsanto were "MONX". Another common car number was "GATX". I recall testing, or seeing samples labeled CONCO, DOW and GOODRICH. In 1982, while looking up old records in the Lab, I made written notes which included excerpts from data sheets from 1968 VCM testing. These notes indicate that in July and October, 1968, the following VCM tank cars were tested in the East Control Lab: DOW X3337; CONCO CONX9066; and GOODRICH V82527.

I learned that Monsanto would be ceasing its own production of VCM in Texas City and would be seeking a new supplier, sometime between 1968 and 1970. My recollection is that a supervisor told me this as an explanation for the unusual number of outside suppliers sending VCM tank cars. However, even before this, while Monsanto was still in the VCM business, the Indian Orchard plant would occasionally use VCM from other suppliers when there was a shortage. Monsanto was part of a pool arrangement with other companies, including Union Carbide. I learned that Union Carbide was involved from a lab analyst who had tested tank cars labeled "CCBX", which he knew were from Union Carbide. He had also tested American Cyanamid VCM.

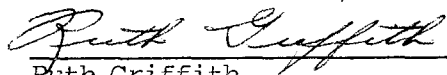
After 1968, or thereabouts, according to a former Department 80 (VC Polymerization) foreman, Union Carbide became the principal supplier of VCM, although DOW monomer was also used. A former Dept. 80 kettle operator and a former tank farm operator recall Dow as being used more than any other supplier.

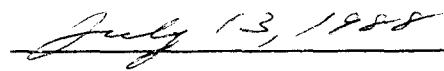
I tested VCM in the Monsanto Control Lab until transferred to the Saflex testing section in Building #10. In 1972, I was transferred to Building 99 Saflex Control Lab, where I remained until my retirement in 1982.

My earliest exposure to VCM at Monsanto was in Building #3, East Control Lab, in 1949.

This statement was given by me voluntarily and of my own free will.

I solemnly swear under the penalties of perjury that the contents of the foregoing are true and correct and are based upon my personal knowledge.


Ruth Griffith


Date

Chicopee, Massachusetts