



## INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

UC 149-2

## CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS

P. O. BOX 471, TEXAS CITY, TEXAS 77590

TO (NAME) Mr. R. L. Frantz  
Mr. J. A. Fredericksen  
COMPANY Mr. J. B. Leverton  
Mr. K. E. Ross  
LOCATION Mr. G. F. Tacquard ✓  
Mr. B. W. Wilde  
COPY TO Mr. M. E. Eisenhower  
Dr. D. H. Glenn

DATE February 22, 1974

SUBJECT Vinyl Chloride

In light of recent publicity concerning Vinyl Chloride, I would like to request that you orally inform your employees who are involved in vinyl chloride production, Distribution and Maintenance of the following background information on this subject:

"Union Carbide has informed the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health in Washington, D. C. that it has reviewed the available records of 725 employees and former employees who have worked with vinyl chloride monomer and has found only one employee who had angiosarcoma, a rare type of cancer that affects the blood vessel of the liver. This employee died in 1968 and had worked in polyvinyl chloride production in South Charleston from 1944 to 1962.

The Union Carbide study was undertaken following disclosure by B. F. Goodrich that a number of its employees who worked in the polymerization of vinyl chloride had died of angiosarcoma. Union Carbide is continuing to review the records of its employees to see if there are any other indications of the connection between exposure to vinyl chloride and health effects.

Union Carbide stopped producing vinyl chloride monomer several years ago, but now uses monomer purchased from other sources in the production of polyvinyl chloride and vinyl chloride polymers at South Charleston, West Virginia and Texas City, Texas. The Company has been enforcing strict occupational safety controls in its vinyl chloride polymerizing plants and has been making periodic health checks on employees working with this production at the two plants."

*B. B. Cowser*  
B. B. Cowser

P. S. As mentioned Friday, starting Tuesday the Industrial Hygiene Department will commence rechecking T. L. V. samples.  
B. B. C.

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