January 16, 1964

Mr. K. G. Henrikson
Technical Service Department
Product Application Division
Mobil Oil Company
150 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Henrikson:

Dale Smith has asked me to provide information in answer to the questions raised in your letter of January 9, 1964 about our fluids Pydraul AC and 625.

I personally do not know of any oxygen plant that has found it impossible to use either of the Pydrauls because of carry-over of chlorinated compounds. We have had many questions about the potential hazard to humans breathing compressed air from systems in which these fluids are used as lubricants.

In one of our own plants where samples were taken from a compressed air line where the compressor had been used on Pydraul AC for more than three years, analysis of the samples showed zero levels of the components of Pydraul AC, assuring us in this instance that we were not getting mist or vapor of the fluid in the air stream.

These data are not extensive enough to permit the conclusion that there is no carry-over of fluid with all types of compressors under all the varying conditions of wear, temperature of operation, etc.

We have always recommended that wherever the compressed air was to be supplied for human consumption, good industrial practice dictates that a cartridge filter be placed in the line ahead of the air supplied mask or respirator. Twenty-five years ago we used to make the same recommendation for compressors with petroleum or "non synthetic" lubricants. It is my understanding that it is not uncommon for the air stream to pick up rust, moisture and other foreign materials some place in any system that has been in use for some time.

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I mentioned earlier that we had had a number of inquiries similar to yours. I would estimate that since the introduction of Pydraul AC there may have been as many as 50 to 75 of these. I am sure that in some cases our recommendations about the filters have not been accepted. Not in any case have we heard of any reports of acute or chronic toxic effects from the inhalation of air from compressors lubricated with Pydraul AC or Pydraul 625.

If I can be of any further assistance, do not hesitate to call on me.

Very truly yours,

Elmer P. Wheeler, Manager
Environmental Health
Medical Department

EPW:mjb

cc: Dale Smith