



Air Products and Chemicals
INC.

CALVERT CITY PLANT
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: B. D. Helms

Date: 6 February 1980

From: L. C. Toney

Copies: R. E. Luken
A. J. Diglio, Trexlertown

Re: January Monthly
Report

Ditches Contamination

Four inspections of the ditches were made during the month as an effort to reduce contamination in the ditches. Sources of contamination observed were discussed with the plant personnel following each inspection to seek means of eliminating the flows to the ditches. The dike drain valves were checked and drain valves found open were reported to the production superintendents. A report was issued following each inspection.

An improvement has been made at containing the emulsions that get into the ditches. The ditches have been blocked and most of the emulsions that get into the ditches are pumped to the sewer. A cost estimate for installing concrete pads and curbing in the PVOH plant to contain liquids that get to the ditches has been prepared. A CE for revising the PVOH condensate system to eliminate vibration and back pressure is being prepared. A CE for wastewater reduction in the Acetylenics plant which includes reducing flow to the ditches has been approved.

Sewer Loadings

Discussions were held with PVOH, Emulsions, and Acetylenics personnel regarding loadings to the sewers. Following the discussions a list of the sewer loadings from each plant was prepared along with a list of programs that are planned or are in progress to reduce loadings to the sewers and to the ditches.

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Vinyl Chloride Regulations

There was one emergency vinyl chloride release from a relief valve reported in January. The relief valve on the vent scrubber released vinyl chloride on 23 January when liquid carried over from the vent scrubber into the discharge line and formed a liquid seal which caused overpressuring of the vent scrubber. A report for EPA was prepared and was awaiting approval at the end of the month.

A monthly summary of the emergency vinyl chloride releases for December was prepared for J. T. Barr for the SPI study on vinyl chloride releases. There were no emergency releases during December.

A list of deviations from the vinyl chloride regulations by the PVC plant and by the laboratory was compiled.

A training session on the new PVC operating procedure for bypassing the gasholder with the vent streams that contain vinyl acetate was attended on 31 January in order to become familiar with the system.

Existing Landfill

Following the inspection of the existing landfill by State inspectors on 17 January, R. E. Luken and I took samples from the areas where the inspectors expressed concern for our laboratory to analyze for organics and metals. The inspectors were concerned with the dead fish in the slough and on the bank and with seepage or springs creating flow with rust-colored deposits. The landfill area was later checked to determine the extent of dead fish in the slough and to observe the seepage or springs. Dead fish in the slough were found as far as the point where the haul road crosses the slough.

The State inspectors came back on 22 January and took samples of water near the areas of seepage or springs. They hope to determine if the water draining from the ground is springs or leachate from the landfill. They split the samples with our laboratory.

New Landfill

Following review of our permit application for a new landfill, the State asked for additional information. Soil samples for pH analysis were taken from the areas of the new landfill that are to be used for landspreading. Assistance was provided to R. E. Luken in obtaining and writing up the additional information requested by the State.

L. C. Toney

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