



CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

March 2, 1988

Dear Vinyl Chloride Panel Members:

As mentioned in my enclosed letter to Dr. Bennett, I will confer with Dr. Bill Gaffey as to what additional steps CMA Panel Members can take to resolve issues mentioned in the enclosed letter from Sir Richard Doll.

I would appreciate receiving any suggestions you may have to resolve discrepancies identified by Dr. Geoff Paddle between the ASL Registry and the CMA Vinyl Chloride epidemiology study. Please call me at (202) 887-1192 with your thoughts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Has Shah".

Hasmukh Shah, Ph.D.
Manager
Vinyl Chloride Panel

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Subject to Protective Order in
Ross v. Conoco, Inc., No. 90-4837
14th Judicial District Court
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana



CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

March 1, 1988

Dr. B. Bennett
ICI Chemicals and Polymers Limited
Occupational Health Department
Hillhouse Site P.O. Box 4
Thornton-Cleveleys Blackpool FY54QD

Dear Dr. Bennett:

Thank you for your letter of 18 February, 1988. Copies of Sir Richard Doll and your letters have been sent to the CMA Vinyl Chloride Program Panel and EPA for their information. The Panel is already addressing some of the issues raised in Sir Richard Doll's letter. I will consult with Dr. William Gaffey, the chairman of the CMA Vinyl Chloride Panel, to discuss a course of action to resolve the remainder of the issues. I will inform you of our decision in the near future.

To resolve the issue of accurate diagnosis of angiosarcomas, "other" liver tumors, and biliary tract tumors, CMA has contracted with EPA to retrieve pathologic materials (tissue blocks and/or slides) from each of the 37 persons who died from these tumors. If EPA is successful in retrieving these samples, Dr. Kamal Ishak of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology will study these samples. He will ascertain whether "other" liver tumors and biliary tract tumors are really misdiagnosed angiosarcomas or are truly non-angiosarcomas. I will inform you of the outcome of this study when adequate information becomes available.

Please plan to visit me in September when you are in the United States. Hopefully, by that time I will have additional information to resolve the discrepancies mentioned in Sir Richard Doll's letter. Meanwhile, I would appreciate a copy of Dr. Geoff Paddle's letter to Sir Richard Doll that is mentioned in your February 18 letter.

Looking forward to seeing you in September.

Sincerely,

Has Shah

Hasmukh Shah, Ph.D.
Manager
Vinyl Chloride Program

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ICI Chemicals and Polymers Limited
Occupational Health Department
Hillhouse Site P.O. Box 4
Thornton-Cleveleys Blackpool FY5 4QD

Telephone	(0253) 861632	Direct Line
	(0253) 861370	Secretary
	(0253) 861444	Switchboard
Facsimile	(0253) 861861	Telex 67483 ICIPLHG

C

Chemicals and
Polymers
Limited

P

Hillhouse
Site

Dr Has Shah
C M A
2501 M Street NW
WASHINGTON DC 20037

Your ref

Our ref

Date 18 Feb 88

Dear Dr. Shah,

ASL

After the publication of the Doll Report, Dr. W. van Berge, Statistician, belonging to DSM, Holland, has compared the number of cases of ASL in the Register against the number of cases in the USA, CMA VCM Epidemiological Study.

He believes that he has found certain discrepancies and, as a result, wrote to Sir Richard Doll, through Dr. Geoff Paddle, asking for an explanation. I am enclosing a copy of the Doll letter, highlighting the differences between the Reports.

Dr. Diets, of B F Goodrich, Ohio, suggested that you might be the appropriate person to look at the queries raised, and I should be most grateful, if the task is at all possible, if you could look at it for me, and help to clarify the situation.

I hope that you found the information in the recent ASL Register of interest.

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IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Cancer Epidemiology and Clinical Trials Unit

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Acting Director: Emeritus Professor Sir Richard Doll, D.M., F.R.S.
Telephone: (0865) 33762

Gibson Building
The Radcliffe Infirmary
Oxford OX2 6HE

RD/CH

22 December 1987

Dr G.M. Paddle,
Imperial Chemical Industries PLC,
Epidemiology Unit,
Alderley Park,
Macclesfield,
Cheshire SK10 4TJ.

Dear Barry,

I am sorry not to have replied to your letter of 20.10.87 before but it needed detailed attention and I was very hard pressed to complete a major report for NRPB on the UK atom bomb participants which had to be completed by a fixed date.

I have now had time to think about Dr ten Berge's letter. He has a good point. I agree that only 20 of the 37 liver cancer cases causing death in the EHA study are in the Registry as having caused death before 31.12.82 whereas there should have been 29 (though I disagree with one of his numbers - I identified no. 31 in the Registry and failed to identify no. 29). Approximately 6 deaths from liver and gall-bladder cancer were expected so that that leaves approximately 11 deaths that are either angiosarcomas missed by the Registry, excess liver (or gall-bladder) deaths other than angiosarcoma, or an excess number of misdiagnoses. Any of these might be the true explanation, but meanwhile my confident conclusion that the only tumour of the liver produced by vinyl chloride is angiosarcoma is weakened. Nevertheless the fit with the British, Canadian, and Italian data makes me still put my money on its truth - in which case a fair proportion of the 11 extra deaths must be angiosarcomas not picked up by the registry. This would be an important conclusion and makes it worth your trying to discover what the EHA liver cancer deaths actually were (nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 24, 29, 30, 32, 33, and 34). Two of them could conceivably be in the Registry with some wrong information (i.e. 9 Registry no. 32 and 37 Registry no. 19) but I doubt if they are.

The other things we want to know are whether: (i) the missing Registry cases came from companies that did not participate in the EHA study (which might account for Registry numbers 12 (though it seems unlikely that Firestone didn't) 23 (Great American Chemical Co.) and 32 (Monsanto), and (ii) what were the certified causes of death of men who presumably should have been in the EHA study and (if liver or gall-bladder cancer) why weren't they there: namely 08, 10, 18, 19, 20, and 23 (and 12, 23, and 32 if the relevant companies were included).

Is there any chance of your obtaining any of this information?

With best wishes for the New Year,

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Richard Doll
Richard Doll

Office of the Fund, P.O. Box No. 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX Registered Charity No. 209631

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