

INTERNATIONAL LEAD ZINC RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, INC.



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August 26, 1987

Dr. John Yoder
Lead Industries Association
292 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear John:

Recently I received a copy of a note from Bob Carlstrom, formerly with Doe Run, who expressed concern about the document on lead prepared by the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry. This report, which was prepared in response to a Congressional directive over Superfund legislation, has been the subject of some controversy. The authors who were from the University of North Carolina, claim that the United States Department of Health and Human Services "covered up" the supposed magnitude of the lead problem in the United States. They noisily resigned from further activities on this report. In response from this and pressure from environmentalists and from Congress, ASTDR has reissued the report and has distributed it for peer review. I received a copy and was asked for my comments. While slightly improved from another version which I reviewed last December, the document still is terribly alarmist about the effects of lead and I believe strongly overstates the number of individuals who may be affected.

I plan to submit my comments as requested, but I do feel that the report is sufficiently dangerous to warrant action by LIA in particular. Specifically I would suggest that sections of the report be reviewed by experts in the various field including perhaps a review by Gale Hoffnagle on the population estimates. Sections on neurology, fetal effects, etc., might also be reviewed by experts in those specialties. This information, I think, should be provided to ATSDR, but also to perhaps OMB and key Congressmen. In particular I note that John Dingle has been involved in this controversy as Chairman of the House Sub Committee on oversight and investigation.

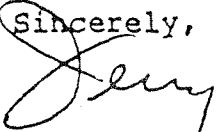


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Dr. John Yoder

I will send you a copy of my comments as soon as they are completed.

With best regards,

Sincerely,



Jerome F. Cole
President

/jah

cc: Bob Muth
Dan Vornberg
Bill Pallies
Ed Seeger
Rosalind Volpe
Robert Putnam
Enclosure



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