

 Frank D Smith

05/10/2002 02:42 PM

To: James F Riley/CL/DuPont@DuPont, Catherine A Barton/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Kenneth N Wood/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Craig L Bartlett/AE/DuPont@DuPont
cc: Isidoros J Zanikos/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Michael J Lukas/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Ross E Austin/AE/DuPont@DuPont@DuPont, Bernard J Reilly/AE/DuPont@DuPont
Subject: Parkersburg News & Sentinel Coverage on C-8 Protective Level

Circleville Team,

In light of the new drinking water standard as discussed in the attached, we need to re-evaluate our sampling plans for Circleville. I suggest we have a face to face meeting at BMP 27 or at Brandywine Bldg to discuss and tie Jim in by phone. How about next Thursday @ 9am?

Frank

----- Forwarded by Frank D Smith/AE/DuPont on 05/10/2002 02:33 PM -----

 Isidoros J Zanikos

05/10/2002 02:27 PM

To: Frank D Smith/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Michael R Liberati/AE/DuPont@DuPont
cc:
Subject: Parkersburg News & Sentinel Coverage on C-8 Protective Level

----- Forwarded by Isidoros J Zanikos/AE/DuPont on 05/10/2002 02:26 PM -----

 Diane R Shomper

05/10/2002 07:32 AM

To: George H Senkler_Jr/AE/DuPont@DuPont, R Clifton Webb/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Martha L Rees/AE/DuPont@DuPont, John R Bowman/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Kathleen H Forte/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Isidoros J Zanikos/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Janet H Waters/CL/DuPont@DuPont, Timothy P Mccann/DuPont@DuPont, Kathleen A Shelton/AE/DuPont@DuPont, David M Rurak/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Paul J Bossert/AE/DuPont@DuPont, Dawn D Jackson/CL/DuPont@DuPont, Robbin Banerjee/AE/DuPont@DuPont, George A Alnsley/SE/DuPont@DuPont, Andrew S Hartlen/AE/DuPont@DuPont, M. Ann Bradley/STB/DUP@DUP, Heather H. Jones/STB/DUP@DUP

cc:

Subject: Parkersburg News & Sentinel Coverage on C-8 Protective Level

C8 safety limits set by experts

FROM STAFF REPORTS

After a year of controversy and testing, a team of scientific experts has developed a human health protective level for ammonium perfluorooctanoate, also known as C8, in drinking water.

Since the 1950s, C8 has been used by DuPont's Washington Works plant and wasn't subject to federal or West Virginia emissions or discharge limitations.

State environmental regulators and public health officials made the announcement Thursday.

It was determined a water level containing less than 150 parts per billion of C8 would not cause harm to humans, said Dee Ann Staats, Ph.D., science adviser for the West Virginia Department of Environmental

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Protection.

In an e-mailed press release, Paul Bossert, plant manager at Washington Works, responded to the findings.

"DuPont respects the science-based process that was used to determine a human health protective level for C8, and we will continue to fully comply with all the terms of our agreements with state and federal regulators," Bossert wrote. "We are pleased that the toxicity team's conclusions support DuPont's position that the presence of C8 at the low levels detected to date in drinking water in the Mid-Ohio Valley is not harmful."

Dawn Jackson, external affairs assistant at Washington Works, declined comment on the findings, referring media calls to the press release.

Tests revealed the highest concentrations of C8 in any well water tested in West Virginia near the plant was 10.32 parts per billion - substantially below the announced health protective level.

Officials said they will continue to work on a human health protective level for air emissions and will announce that number as soon as it is determined by the toxicology team.

A decision is expected soon, they said.

Staats led a 10-member team comprised of toxicologists from the WVDEP and consultants from the nonprofit organization Toxicology Excellence in Risk Assessment, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region III, EPA headquarters in Washington, D.C., the Centers for Disease Control's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and DuPont.

Team members approved the health protective level after two days of meetings at EPA offices in Cincinnati this week. They reviewed all relevant scientific studies on the potential health effects of C8, according to a press release from the WVDEP.

Last November the team was established and met under the terms of a consent order entered into by West Virginia regulators and DuPont.

That order set forth a series of tasks, including the toxicological and human health assessment to determine whether there has been any impact on human health or the environment as a result of releases of C8 from the plant.

DuPont is bound to abide by the findings of the toxicological team and to take all applicable actions to reduce C8 exposure below the protective levels established by the experts, according to the WVDEP's press release.

"The team thoroughly reviewed the scientific studies and unanimously agreed to the human health protective levels for drinking water," Staats said.

"We brought together some of the best scientists in the country. I am confident the human health protective levels established by the team are supported by the data.

"These findings should bring comfort to the citizens of the Wood and Mason counties."

Dr. Henry G. Taylor, state health officer and commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health, said, "Collaboration between all parties to develop this health protective level is an important step in maintaining and assuring safe drinking water for the citizens in these areas of Wood and Mason counties."

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A public meeting will be conducted by the WVDEP from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at Blennerhassett Middle School to discuss the work of the toxicological team and the impact of C8 exposure on West Virginia residents.

The November 2001 order requires DuPont to take steps to reduce emissions of C8, to document the extent of C8 in the environment and to take any actions necessary to protect the public from drinking water with levels of C8 above 150 parts per billion.

Under the direction of the WVDEP, groundwater in the affected area has been undergoing testing since last year. Results indicate no public or private drinking water sources contain levels of C8 above the health protective level for water.

"While we are relieved that no drinking water supply in West Virginia has tested at or above the health protective levels, there is still a lot of work to finish and should the need arise, the order requires DuPont to reduce the exposure level should a water source be found to be above the health protective level," said Dave Watkins of WVDEP and head of the Groundwater Investigation Steering Team. "We will discuss these topics at the upcoming public meeting"

Watkins' team examined wells along the Ohio River from Parkersburg to Pomeroy, Ohio. Water testing within the Ohio River itself will start shortly under Watkins' direction.

Those results should be available within a month of the completion of the team's work.

EPA and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency will hold a public meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at Warren High School in Vincent to discuss C8 levels in Ohio.

In March, DuPont established an Internet Web site, www.c8inform.com, offering key facts about C8 and its use history, summaries of health studies, West Virginia regulatory activity and an interactive page where citizens can e-mail questions to the company.

A toll-free number, (888) 533-8266, was established for a direct connection to the plant's external affairs office.

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