



MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

1825 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W. • WASHINGTON, D. C. 20009 • (202) 483-6126

December 16, 1969

DEC 16 1969

Dr. Howard C. Spencer
The Dow Chemical Company
1803 Building
Midland, Michigan 48640

Dear Howard:

This is a follow-up to my letter of October 10 to the MCA Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Chemicals Committee, in which I relayed the request from the secretary of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives concerning data on food-grade extraction solvents.

As you know, at the December 8 meeting of the FDCC Committee, the International Food Standards Task Group recommended handling the response to these requests through the MCA office rather than via individual submissions so as to permit more effective communication.

To distribute the work involved and to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort, you are requested to act as coordinator for the submission of data on the following food-grade extraction solvents only: methylene chloride, ethylene dichloride, and trichloroethylene.

So that the data may be as complete as possible, other producers of the above-named food-grade extraction solvents are requested by their copies of this letter to send to you immediately: (1) information concerning efficacy, (2) specifications of identity and purity, (3) methods of analysis, particularly of the residues likely to occur in various foods, and (4) toxicological and other biological data. These are the items of information requested by FAO/WHO.

It is realized that the information concerning efficacy (or technological need) is sometimes more readily available through food manufacturers. However, time does not permit contacting them for this information. So it will be appreciated if available efficacy information is included with the other information to be sent to you.

The toxicological and other biological data may be published (preferably) or unpublished. If unpublished data are submitted, all should be aware that it is with the understanding that it may be used

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and referred to by the Expert Committee. Six reprints of all cited references should be submitted to you along with this toxicological data. Six copies of the data itself may also be needed.

Upon receipt of the above four types of information from the other manufacturers, you are requested to coordinate it with your own and with any other data uncovered by a literature search and put the complete package for each of the three food-grade extraction solvents into the general format of the FAO/WHO monographs. The complete packages for each of the three solvents are to be distributed by the MCA staff to FAO (two copies), WHO (two copies), and to the U.S. delegate to the Codex Committee on Food Additives (one copy). The sixth copy of each submittal is to be retained by MCA.

As coordinator, you are asked to include an interpretation or evaluation of the data in the form of a recommended acceptable daily intake for each of the three food-grade extraction solvents as per the FAO/WHO monographs. Also, in covering the efficacy phase for each solvent, you are asked to supplement the information received by you with what can be obtained by inference in reviewing the respective FDA Food Additive orders.

The FAO/WHO Expert Committee has requested receipt of this information preferably by February 1, 1970. Thus the urgency for immediate action is evident.

If for any reason you cannot act as coordinator for this project, please advise right away who you think would be in a position to do so.

Sincerely yours,



M. M. Hoover, Secretary
Food, Drug, and Cosmetic
Chemicals Committee

MMH:sjg

P.S.: All manufacturers receiving copies of this letter are asked to advise me immediately if you note any omissions in the list of manufacturers of the three food-grade extraction solvents appearing below. It is realized that some companies on the list may not make food-grade solvents, but are included since this is not known in some cases.

P.P.S.: It is recommended that you contact Dr. Spencer by phone to go over the points in this letter before proceeding further. His telephone number is (517)636-2444.

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CC: W. E. McCormick, (Chairman, FDCC Committee)
T. W. Hanavan, (Vice Chairman, FDCC Committee)
✓ W. A. Knapp, Allied Chemical Corporation, (201)538-8000
F. R. Barron, Jr., American Cyanamid Company, (609)799-0400
H. F. Holzapfel, American Hoechst Corporation, (201)526-1100
R. G. Troup, J. T. Baker Chemical Company, (201)859-2151
J. D. Kelly, Continental Oil Company, (212)JU6-2510
F. J. Chmielnicki, Detrex Chemical Industries, (313)868-8600
J. A. Wilson, Diamond Shamrock Corporation, (216)621-6100
B. C. Gottwald, Ethyl Corporation, (703)644-6081
C. W. Dithrich, Fisher Scientific Company, (412)391-1330
W. E. McCormick, B. F. Goodrich Company, (216)379-2562
A. W. Chambers, Jr., Hooker Chemical Corporation, (212)922-2500
J. R. Mennis, Merck & Co., Inc., (201)381-5000
R. F. Philpitt, Olin Corporation, (203)356-2418
J. T. Owens, PPG Industries, (412)434-3131
R. N. Bell, Stauffer Chemical Company, (914)693-1200
M. B. Ver Nooy, Union Carbide Corporation, (914)345-2251
J. O. Screven, Vulcan Materials Corporation, (205)879-0421

