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LIT
Warren VCC

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

39 Old Ridgebury Road, Danbury, CT 06817
Chemicals & Plastics Group / Health, Safety & Environmental Affairs

P-2

~~NOTE~~
Background
#5

March 22, 1989

To: Betty-Lynn White, Esq.

PRIVILEGED AND
"CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL
SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE
ORDER"

Re: Warren Claim

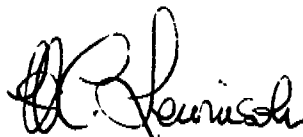
I have reviewed the attached documents at your request.

Assuming that the deceased was indeed exposed to vinyl chloride and that the cause of death was angiosarcoma of the liver with multiple metastases proven at biopsy, it is my opinion that, in the light of the recognized association between such exposure and angiosarcoma of the liver, this case should be considered to be related to his stated occupation.

Union Carbide is aware of a number of cases of angiosarcoma of the liver which have occurred at its South Charleston plant. According to the literature, the highest risk time period was in the 1940s and 1950s. Mr. Warren was employed at Monsanto throughout this time frame (1948-1975) and probably, by today's standards, was heavily exposed. The ACGIH TLV was 500 ppm TWA, but in 1970 an intended change to 200 ppm was published. The association between exposure to VCM and angiosarcoma in humans was not discovered until 1974. As you know, the present OSHA PEL is 1 ppm TWA, with a STEL of 5 ppm and an absolute ban on contact with liquid VCM. The fourth Annual Report on Carcinogens of the National Toxicology Program states:

"There is sufficient evidence that vinyl chloride is a human carcinogen. Its target organs are the liver (angiosarcomas), brain, lung, and hemo- and lymphopoietic systems.....there is no evidence that there is an exposure level below which no increased risk of cancer would occur in humans."

I hope these few comments are of help to you.



H. C. Lewinsohn

RECEIVED

MAR 22 1989

B. L. WHITE

HCL/tt
1997E
attachments

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