

Environmental Health Department

March 8, 1976

TO: All Members, Lead Industries Association
Members, Environmental Health Committee, Lead Industries
Association

FROM: P. E. Robinson

SUBJECT: Employee Exposure to Lead

Gentlemen:

Enclosed are the following items relating to employee exposure to lead:

1. Don't Use Drugs To Prevent Lead Poisoning, concerning the use of chelating agents in lead industries.
2. OSHA Guidelines To Control Employee Exposure to Lead, issued as an interim measure until promulgation of the new federal standard for lead. These guidelines are not mandatory at this time.
3. Letter from Dr. Jerome Cole, Director of Environmental Health, LIA, to Dr. Morton Corn, Assistant Secretary of Labor, and head of OSHA, regarding the OSHA Guidelines.

Additional copies of these documents may be obtained from the LIA.

I would also like to bring to your attention that Congressional hearings on occupational lead exposure have been scheduled by Rep. Dominick Daniel's House Subcommittee on Manpower, Compensation, Health and Safety. The hearings will be half-day sessions held on March 18, 24, and 15. Witnesses have been scheduled according to the following general outline:

- March 18 - government witnesses from OSHA, NIOSH, etc.
- March 24 - union witnesses
- March 25 - representatives of NL and RSR have been invited

The arranger for witnesses is Ms. Sue Nelson, legislative associate to the committee. She can be reached at (202) 225-6879. No location for the hearings has been selected yet.

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The hearings will investigate lead poisoning of workers at smelting operations and battery plants as well as the use of chelating drugs to prevent toxic lead levels in workers' blood. The Subcommittee will also investigate the adequacy of basing a lead standard on a measure of air contaminants rather than on blood lead levels of workers.

lgp

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