



INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

RECD.

1079

DLF

CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS

P. O. BOX 471, TEXAS CITY, TEXAS 77390

TO (NAME) Mr. T. L. Bateman
 COMPANY Mr. J. H. Barrett
 LOCATION Mr. T. O. Blum
 Mr. L. E. Calvert
 Mr. D. L. Engle ✓
 Mr. R. E. Graebert
 Mr. J. L. Hockersmith
 Mr. J. S. Knight
 Mr. J. E. Llana
 Mr. W. P. Nickles
 Mr. F. S. Provenzano
 Mr. D. R. Reem
 Mr. R. J. Taylor

DATE November 14, 1979

SUBJECT OSHA Complaints
 1974 - 1979
Texas City Plant

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Gents:

Recently our Labor Relations Group reviewed the various OSHA complaints that have occurred at this location (1974 - 1979) to see if there were any discernible trends as to: (a) area from which the complaints were being filed, and (b) pattern as to type of complaint. Often these two factors, where repetition exists, is systematic of a larger problem.

Our review does not indicate any trend as to area or type of complaint. With several exceptions the allegations were generally of a petty nature. The only disturbing note is the fact that thus far this year we have experienced more than double the number of complaints vs. any other year since 1974. The incidents of brain tumors and the resulting epidemiology study may to a large degree be responsible for the increase in complaints this year.

The specific incidents since 1974 are attached for your review if you care to study them in more detail.

Sincerely,

R. Ritchie

RR/gt
 Attachment

PRIVILEGED AND
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 053617

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053618

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OSHA COMPLAINTS - TEXAS CITY PLANT

1974 - 1979

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Complaint</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Standards Violated</u>
6/4/74 6/5/74 6/12/74	Special-VCM Monitoring	None	Stds. Compli.	Vinyls area	None
7/3/74	Special-VCM Monitoring	None	"	"	Based on engineering control clause, elevated VCM in two operations.
3/23/74	Employee Complaint	Alleged unsafe condition walking from gate to Bldg. 74 Maintenance Office.	?	?	None
11/12/75	OSHA initiated followup	OSHA inspection triggered by Texas City reporting, as required by law, of two VCM releases. Releases oc- curred when a piping nipple cracked on an experimental heat exchanger.	Company		29 CFR 1910.1017 (g)(3) fail- ure to provide a written res- piratory protection program meeting requirements of 29 CFR 1910.134.
9/15/76	OSHA initiated followup	OSHA visit triggered by Texas City reporting, as required by law, an emer- gency VC release. Release occurred when the power house went down.	Company		None
11/15/76	Employee complaint	Alleged non air-conditioned control room exposes employees to CO, vinyl dust; primitive eating and cooking facilities.	Unknown	#2 Gas Furnace Bldg.	None

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Complaint</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Standards Violated</u>
8/18/77	Employee complaint	Employee complained that he had to take a rest break in the Building 74 Maintenance Locker Room area at such times that a meeting was in progress in the conference-lunch room. Alleges unsanitary situation might be present.	Mtce. employee		None
9/8/77	Explosion/fatality	Non-Solvent Process Explosion and fatality.	Company		None anticipated.
9/15/77	Investigation				
12/13/78	Employee complaint	Employee exposed to chemicals while loading tank cars and 55 gallon drums - Bldg. 19.	Giusti or P.H. Unknown	Bldg. 19	Inspection and sampling continuing 1/23/79.
1/2/79	Letter-employee complaint	No hot water in Restroom-Bldg. 239. Bad safety valve; shut down heater til repaired.	Operator Unknown	Bldg. 239	None
3/6/79	Employee complaint	Employee injured in unshored excavation.	A.A.Ochoa (ankle bruise)		None
3/14/79	Employee complaint	Employee exposed to mercury and vinyl chloride.		Bldg. 110/111	None
4/6/79	Employee complaint	Compliance with facial hair policy vs. respiratory program. Complaint about people in offices being excused.	Employee Unknown		None
5/1/79	Data	Continuation of 12/13/78; employee exposure complaint	Giusti (maybe)	Bldg. 19	IH sampling continuing.
6/21/79	Gathering	Bldg. 19.			
5/31/79	Employee complaint	Turnstile gates won't open in event of power failure.	Employee Unknown	Gates 7D,1, 2,5	None

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Complaint</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Standards Violated</u>
6/29/79	Letter- employee complaint	Sewer backs up in restroom at Bldg. 225 during heavy rain.	Employee Unknown	Bldg. 225	None
8/20/79	Employee complaint	Vinyl dust is so thick in the air, it chokes employee.	Frances (PF)	Bldg. 121	None
9/28/79	Employee complaint	Dust from road north of No. 3 Olefins furnaces is very heavy.	PF's	No. 3 Olefins	None
10/3/79	Employee complaint	Employees are overexposed to ozone and metal fumes while welding inside van boxes at Bldg. 189.	Hall (Garage)	Bldg. 189.	None

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UCC
053620

NAME: Shelby Lloyd Perkins
ADDRESS: 1133 Park Lane, Texas City, Texas
RACE/SEX: W/M
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Goodyear Operator - made tires
Oilfield as roughneck
DATE OF HIRE: 8-17-53 - Union Carbide
CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Weighmaster
Vinyl Shipping - 6 years - 1 month
Chemical Shipping, 2 years - 5 months
POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Vinyl Resin, Methylethyl Ketone, Toluene,
Acetone, Minimal exposure to Vinyl Acetate
and Vinyl Chloride, Any chemical product
made by Union Carbide
DATE OF TERMINATION: 3-2-62

**PRIVILEGED AND
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UCC
054574

NAME: Vincent Francis Edler
ADDRESS: 1924 - 1st Street, League City, Texas
RACE/SEX: W/M
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Construction Foreman
Clerk in Traffic Department
DATE OF HIRE: 5-18-41 - Union Carbide
CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Operator
Sulfuric Acid - 2 years - 6 months
Chief Operator
Ethanol - 22 years - 2 months
POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Diethyl Sulfate, Ether, Ethyl Oils,
Benzene, Ethylene, Sulfuric Acid, Sulfur
fumes, Ethanol
DATE OF TERMINATION: 1-5-66

**PRIVILEGED AND
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UCC
054575

NAME: Louie Roy Burck
ADDRESS: 3302 Main, La Marque, Texas
RACE/SEX: W/M
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Crane Operator
DATE OF HIRE: 1-25-50 - Union Carbide
CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Heavy Equipment Operator
Plantwide - 16 years - 7 months
POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Plant Environmental Atmosphere
DATE OF TERMINATION: 8-31-66

**PRIVILEGED AND
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UCC
054576

NAME: Eugene Ray Pope
ADDRESS: 331 - 12th Avenue North, Texas City, Texas
RACE/SEX: W/M
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Retail Sales Clerk
Demolition Specialist (Army)
DATE OF HIRE: 8-21-53 - Union Carbide
CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Operator
Polyethylene - 17 years - 9 months
POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Ethylene, Acetone, Isopropanol, Vinyl
Acetate (minimal), Polyethylene
DATE OF TERMINATION: 5-7-71

**PRIVILEGED AND
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UCC
054577

NAME: Clinton LaVaughan Mitcham
ADDRESS: 1028 Hiway 3, La Marque, Texas
RACE/SEX: W/M
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Managed Bowling Alley
Helper in Frozen Food Locker
DATE OF HIRE: 3-2-49 Union Carbide
CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Operator
#1 Gas Compression - 22 years - 3 months
POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Dripolene, Hydrogen Sulfide, Propylene,
Ethylene, Furnace Gas
DATE OF TERMINATION: 6-5-71

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UCC
054578

NAME: William Wurzlow

ADDRESS: 1429 - 4th Avenue North, Texas City, Texas

RACE/SEX: W/M

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Garage Mechanic
Managed Swimming Pool

DATE OF HIRE: 9-26-46 - Union Carbide

CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Operator
Ethylene Oxide - 6 years - 9 months
Chief Operator
Polyethylene - 19 years - 9 months

POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Ethylene Oxide, Ethylene Glycol, Acetylene,
Ethylene, Ethylene Dichloride (minimal),
Heavier Glycols (Di and Tri), Acetone,
Isopropanol, Vinyl Acetate (minimal),
Polyethylene

DATE OF TERMINATION: 3-22-73

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UCC
054579

NAME: Lawrence Salvatore Tuttoilmondo
ADDRESS: 1101 Pirtle - LaMarque, Texas
RACE/SEX: W/M
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Todd Dry Dock
Machinist Ship Repair
DATE OF HIRE: 9-19-51 - Union Carbide
CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Machinist
Plantwide - 9 months
#2 Gas Area - 6 years
Polyethylene Area - 9 years
Machine Shop - 7 years
POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Ethylene, Propylene, All gases in Gas Area,
Methanol (minimal), Acetone (minimal),
Isopropanol (minimal), Vinyl Acetate (minimal),
Polyethylene
DATE OF TERMINATION: 1-8-74

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UCC
054580

NAME: Kaare Thorsteinson Remme
ADDRESS: 1920 Avenue M, Galveston, Texas
RACE/SEX: W/M
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Todd Shipyard - Carpenter
S/S American Press - Oiler
S/S M.T. Goldsboro - Fireman/Watertender
DATE OF HIRE: 10-19-50 - Union Carbide
CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Operator
#6 Pumphouse - 1 year
#1 Powerhouse - 8 years
#7 Pumphouse - 13 years - 6 months
POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Chlorine, Fuel Gas, Plantwide atmosphere
DATE OF TERMINATION: 6-15-68

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UCC
054581

NAME: Joe Briley Liles

ADDRESS: 5550 N. Braeswood #174, Houston, Texas

RACE/SEX: W/M

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: McMurrey Refining Co. - Chief Chemist
Independent Refining Co. - Tetra Ethyl
Lead Blender/Chemist

DATE OF HIRE: 7-29-41 - Union Carbide

CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Instrument Man
Chemical Area - 4 years - 10 months
Plantwide - 4 years - 2 months
Instrument Foreman
Shop Area - 15 years
Division Head
Shop Area - 7 years
Purchasing Agent
Bldg. 1 - 3 years

POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: All plant products - 9 years
Reduced exposure - 22 years
No exposure - office environment - 3 years

DATE OF TERMINATION: 5-31-74

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UCC
054582

NAME: Bobby Jack Hinson

ADDRESS: 907 - 24th Avenue North, Texas City, Texas

RACE/SEX: W/M

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Kirby Lumber Co. - Laborer
Southwestern Bell - Lineman

DATE OF HIRE: 10-30-53 - Union Carbide

CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Weighmaster - Vinyl Shipping
5 years - 11 months
Weighmaster - Chemical Shipping
19 years - 2 months

POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Vinyl Resin, Methyl Ethyl Ketone, Toluene,
Acetone, Vinyl Acetate (minimal), Vinyl
Chloride (minimal), Any Chemical Product
manufactured by Carbide

DATE OF TERMINATION: 12-21-78

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UCC
054583

NAME: Luevell Malone
ADDRESS: 2541 Jackson Street, La Marque, Texas
RACE/SEX: B/M
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Camp Wallace - Porter
DATE OF HIRE: 9-18-46
CRAFT AND WORK AREA: Janitor
South Chemical Area - 10 years
Janitor
Shop Area - 4 years
Laborer - Evening Shift - Plantwide - 4 years
Oiler
Vinylite Area - 8 years - 9 months
POTENTIAL CHEMICAL/
GAS EXPOSURE: Plantwide Exposure
DATE OF TERMINATION: Active

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054584