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Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2001 12:45 PM (GMT)
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Subject: China Study and Animal Testing

The CEC has endorsed and Shell has sent a letter of commitment to participate with 4 other companies (ExxonMobil, Chevron, BP, and Conoco) in a large study of a benzene-exposed population in Shanghai, China. The study will cost approximately \$20M (Shell's commitment is a max of \$3M) and take just over 5 years. The "benzene-exposed population" will be identified by local Shanghai hospitals where workers are diagnosed with benzene poisoning, AML, or other illnesses and there is known potential occupational benzene exposure. Exposure data will be provided by the Shanghai province equivalent of the US Center for Disease Control. Blood samples from this population will be used in support of a prospective epidemiology study, a disease progression and biological markers study. The protocols and consent forms have been reviewed and approved by an Ethics Panel using the UN Epidemiology Guidelines.

The timeline for the project has contracts being signed and checks being written by the end of August. So, the question is: Can Shell continue to participate? Are humans participating in an epidemiology study, similar to our existing medical monitoring programs, included in the animal testing policy?

I would be happy to provide any additional details if requested.

Patsy

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