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Received Date: 2003-03-18 20:32:58 GMT
Subject: Shanghai Benzene Study - API Executive Committee Results

The API Executive Committee met today. On the agenda was a request (briefing paper attached) from the Benzene Health Research Consortium (Shanghai Benzene Study) for "guidance" on meeting the funding shortfall. The study is currently funded at 16.5M with a budget of 22.8M. Bill Frick, API general counsel, presented. Bill's unofficial report is that the board saw a "need to find a way to do this." He sensed strong support from the consortium members (BP, ChevronTexaco, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Shell) on the board. Concerns expressed were tightening physical oversight and process creep. The next executive board meeting is June 19, at which time the request will be actioned.

Following the report out, the consortium members agreed to:

- Follow-up with consortium company representatives on the board. Shell will need to confirm who will be attending the June 19 board meeting and, also, schedule some time with Lynn Elsenhans.
- Follow-up with non-consortium members on the board.
- Continue aggressive recruitment efforts with identified potential sponsors.
- Begin work on API Executive Committee June presentation in late April/early May.

Bill Frick also briefed the API legal committee last week. Cathy Lambole was in attendance for Shell.

Bill will be updating the API HSEGC next week at their meeting in Los Angeles.

Please feel free to contact if you have questions.

Regards,



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