

cc: P. J. Grunwald
W. S. Culliton

January 21, 1971

Dr. Robert P. Mueller
7004 Dolphin Road
Larkan, Maryland 20801

Dear Dr. Mueller:

Your letter concerning the mercury content of Lucite® House Paint has been sent to me for reply.

As with most paint manufacturers, Du Pont adds a small quantity of organic mercury compounds (not alkyl mercurials) to Lucite® paints to protect them from bacterial and fungal attack. A preservative of this type is necessary to insure that the consumer receives a quality product which will perform to his expectations.

Our current 310-Line of Lucite® Outside House Paints contains 0.05% mercury based on solids. This level is below the maximum of 0.06% mercury allowed in paints to be used on children's toys and interior surfaces, as described in the American Standards Association Regulation 266.1-1964.

Because of the pollution problems associated with mercury, a major technical effort was begun at Du Pont some time ago to remove all mercury from house paints. If this project is successful, we expect to remove the mercury from all our paints in the near future.

We appreciate your concern for environmental problems and trust this information will be sufficient to answer your questions. If you need more information, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

William W. Miller
Toxicity & Pollution Control Coordinator

WWM:lhv

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