CELANESE CHEMICAL COMPANY
TECHNICAL CENTER
Corpus Christi, Texas

TO: Mr. R. D. Damron

FROM: J. P. Hawthorne JPH-119-76 December 29, 1976

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
CEL-626

Minutes of OSHA Committee Meeting
December 15, 1976

The OSHA Committee met in the North Conference Room at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 15, 1976, for the purpose of reviewing a chemical health hazard priority list submitted to the Committee by Dr. B. J. Bland.

The Committee recommended the following actions be initiated:

(1) A current list of health hazard chemicals should be maintained and employees should be made aware of these chemicals. Carcinogens should not be used.

(2) A monitoring program should be set up to include chemicals currently regulated by OSHA standards and chemicals which we think should be monitored for employee protection but are not covered by standards.

A list of exposure priorities is attached.

Discussion

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 regulates about 400 air contaminants which may be present in the work place. About 22 of these are presently regulated by OSHA standards and additional standards are to be published soon according to OSHA.

The Technical Center OSHA Committee thinks we are in compliance with the law, but we haven't actually analyzed for the contaminants in many areas. We base our belief that we are safe primarily on ventilation. Most of our laboratory areas have rapid air turnover. The OSHA Committee has recommended an engineering survey to determine the condition of our ventilation systems including hoods. This survey should be complete within one month.

Discussion (Cont.)

In addition, there are other work areas where employee exposure is possible. The OSHA Committee requested that Mr. J. P. Hawthorne and Mr. E. S. Ramey conduct a survey of the facility and make recommendations for an air monitoring program. The survey is complete (ref. ESR-307-76 attached) and sets priorities on a monitoring program. The report lists three areas of priority.

The first group of chemicals are carcinogens and should not be in use at the Technical Center. This list is published for employees to become aware of chemicals classified as carcinogens.

The second group lists chemicals that are presently covered by OSHA standards (or voluntary standards). Essentially, these standards require a file on each chemical showing that its level is below the permissible exposure level in the work place. In these cases, we must either analyze directly or make a calculation based on ventilation. In case we use ventilation as a control, we must check the ventilation system every three months.

The third group lists chemicals that the OSHA Committee believes should be monitored in the work place. This decision is based on their toxicity, the amount of chemical used and their frequency of use. In other words, where we believe there is potential for employee exposure; and we should check to make certain we are below the permissible exposure level.

J. P. Hawthorne, Chairman
OSHA Committee

JPH/sac
Attachment

cc: Mr. W. E. Heinz
Mr. W. T. McNair
Mr. A. A. Miller
Dr. L. Starr

OSHA Committee Members

Dr. B. J. Bland
Mr. H. L. Farek
Mr. R. B. Garrett
Mr. L. W. Hartman
Mr. D. A. Reck
Mr. W. L. Shealy