



CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

February 25, 1994

Ron Gilbert
Westlake Polymers
2801 Post Oak Blvd.
Houston, TX 77056

Dear Mr. Gilbert:

The Chemical Manufacturers Association Vinyl Chloride Panel is considering a second update of the vinyl chloride epidemiology study. This is a very important undertaking to resolve some scientific issues arising from the first update. The original study was comprised of employees working in vinyl chloride and polyvinyl chloride operations from 1942 to 1972. The mortality experience of these workers was updated to 1982. The following documents are enclosed to familiarize you with the study and scientific issues concerning the update:

- 1) Vinyl Chloride Panel commitment form;
- 2) February 14, 1994 Record of Meeting;
- 3) December 9, 1993 Record of Conference Call;
- 4) November 5, 1993 Record of Meeting;
- 5) December 2, 1993 letter from CMA to ENSR;
- 6) February 10, 1994 letter from ENSR;
- 7) Final Report, "An Update of An Epidemiology Study of Vinyl Chloride Workers, 1942-1982";
- 8) February 1989 ENSR Reassessment of Liver Cancer Among Vinyl Chloride Workers;
- 9) An Industry-Wide Epidemiologic Study on Vinyl Chloride Workers, 1942-1982;
- 10) Letter to the Editor, "Diagnostic Bias in Occupational Epidemiologic Studies"; and,
- 11) Letter to the Editor, "Diagnostic Bias in Occupational Epidemiologic Studies: An Example Based on the Vinyl Chloride Literature."

CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
Vinyl Chloride Panel
Research Coordinators
Commitment Form



My company commits to contribute \$3,000 for administrative and consultant services for the Vinyl Chloride Research Coordinators Task Force. The Panel is conducted under the policies and procedures outlined in the CHEMSTAR Panel Guidelines (as noted on the reverse of this form).



While appreciating the opportunity, my company declines to participate.

We are required by law to tell you that contributions, gifts or membership dues paid to CMA are not deductible as "charitable contributions" for income tax purposes. This law does not affect the deductibility of these payments as a "business expense."

Panel Representative

Management Contact (optional)

Name (Signed)

Name (Signed)

Name (Typed)

Name (Typed)

Title

Title

Company

Company

Address

Address

Telephone

Telephone

Telecopier (Type, Make, Number)

Telecopier (Type, Make, Number)

Please return signed form by December 31, 1993 to:

Hasmukh C. Shah, Manager
Chemical Manufacturers Association
2501 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

CMA 114599

Mr. Gilbert
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Currently, there are nine producer companies of vinyl chloride in the U.S. Eight of these companies, except Westlake, are members of the CMA Vinyl Chloride Panel. Your predecessor, BFGoodrich, participated in the original study and the first update. The Panel members invite you to join them in the second update of the vinyl chloride epidemiology study. Please complete the enclosed commitment form for \$3,000 if you decide to join the Vinyl Chloride Panel to update the study. Each company's pro-rata share for the actual study will be determined at a later date.

If your current workers are included in the study cohort through their previous affiliation with BFGoodrich, the proposed update will provide you with important scientific information. On the other hand, even if your more recent workers are not included in the study cohort, your participation in the proposed update will provide your company with information on current scientific issues to aid in better risk management.

I understand from Mr. Frank Borrelli that you plan to attend the next Vinyl Institute meeting in March. I will be happy to meet with you at that time to discuss any of the issues arising from your review of the enclosed material.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 887-1192.

Sincerely,



Hasmukh C. Shah. Ph.D.
Manager, Vinyl Chloride Panel

Enclosures

CMA 114600

By accepting membership in the panel, the participating companies agree to:

- o conduct the panel according to CMA general policies and procedures as described in these Guidelines, and applicable sections of the CMA Committee Guide;
- o accept responsibility for all operating costs resulting from activities of the panel, including liabilities for errors and omissions, and litigation against the panel;
- o disclose to the CMA Office of General Counsel all potential conflicts of interest;
- o arrange for employment of any needed retained counsel and consultants through CMA, by and with the concurrence of the CMA Office of General Counsel;
- o accept CMA management and disbursement of panel funds, at the panel's direction, within the administrative and financial guidelines of the Association;
- o follow CMA procedures for release of information about the panel. (This commitment shall not preclude individuals or corporations from releasing information without CMA clearance where the law imposes such responsibility upon an individual or corporation); and,
- o make final and significant interim environmental, health and safety research results, as well as other reports having a similar impact on the public welfare, available to the public, when legally permitted. [Access to raw data is granted upon receipt of a request which documents a valid need for such data. (Requests that involve additional costs to the participating companies, and possible compensation due to such companies, are reviewed by the companies in advance of any commitment to release the raw data.)]