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REPORT OF CALL

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DOW CHEMICAL U.S.A.
DOW CONFIDENTIAL

Department: CHEMICALS & METALS

Copies to:

S. Dombrowski, 2020
J. Flowers, 2020
J. Gootee, Washington St. Bldg.
R. Hettler, 2020
J. Hutchison, 9008

J. Kelyman, 2020
R. Oubre, Oyster Creek
W. Shoun, 2020
K. Surprenant, 2020
D. Wilson, 628 Bldg.

R&S 029722

Firm Name/Address:

The Vinyl Institute, The Grand Hotel, 2350 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20037

Written by:	Field	Dow	Phone	Develop.	Serv.	Other	Date Called	Date Written
Carol Niemi <i>en</i>	X					X	5/27-5/28/86	5/29/86
(Trade Association)								

Other Dow Persons Also Present:

W. Shoun, R. Oubre, J. Hutchinson

Subject: Annual Meeting

Summary:

Awards presented to Dow Chemical at the annual banquet were:

VI's Second Annual Safety Award: For Bob Oubre's work on a program to assess community hazard.

VI's Lowest Recordable Incidence Rate Award: For 3 Dow monomer plants having a zero incidence rate.

Dow participation in VI is as follows:

Executive Board: Bill Shoun

Communications Committee: Joy Hutchison

Health, Safety, and Environment Committee: Robert Oubre

Legal Committee: Jane Gootee

Solid Waste Subcommittee: Dave Wilson

Medical Subcommittee: Ted Torkelson (?)

I attended the 5/27 Technical Committee Meeting as well as the 5/28 annual VI meeting. The Technical Committee is important in that all issues seems to emanate from there. It has 4 or 5 sub-committees including the solid waste and medical subcommittees. 35-40% of VI's budget is spent by this committee. However, issues and activities are keyed not to vinyl chloride monomer or vinylidene chloride, but rather the polyvinyl chloride plastic products. Not being involved in these plastic products, Chemicals and Metals TS&D and environmental personnel would seem better deployed on other activities. Thus it's hoped Dow personnel on other committees and subcommittees could monitor Technical Committees for any issues which might seem to impact Dow, drawing on available Dow resources where needed. A good example of this is that Dave Wilson is said to be arranging a visit of Frank Karasek from Canada to Dow Analytical Lab dioxin testing facilities. A new policy of not holding the Technical Committee meeting at the same time as other committee meetings should make monitoring its efforts possible by others.

Key Issues before VI at this time are:

Solid Waste Management: Although acceptable quality and pricing of recycled articles doesn't seem supportable, draft regulations are being introduced, calling for recycling, incineration or banning of plastic packaging. Incineration is complicated by unsupported allegations that burning PVC plastics with lignins from paper yields chlorodioxins.

Fire Safety: Allegations are that HCl resulting from burning PVC plastics has a delayed effect on pulmonary function. It's been claimed that HCl adsorbs onto particulates and carries further down into the lungs. These allegations have led to fire fighter and building industry concerns.

Pipe Permeability/Leaching: Allegations were that use of PVC pipe would lead to permeability leaching problems. Since this has been proven false, there should be no restrictions on PVC pipe for water usage.

New NSF Standard for RVCM in PVC Pipe: Pipe is to be aged 30 days from the extruder and have no more than 2 ppm reactive vinyl chloride monomer. This relates back to a 1 ppb analysis capability and a 0 RMCL which VI will try to influence via risk assessment.

New FDA Rulemaking: PVC is likely to be approved for liquor bottle usage, the only usage currently banned.

REMARKS:

Detailed reports on VI actions in these areas are in their annual report are being routed to Dombrowski, Flowers and Hettler. It is available to others, upon request.