CONOCO

Interoffice Communication

To L. N. Vernon

From D. V. Porchey

Date May 8, 1974

Subject Fixed Point VCM Monitoring

On May 3, 1974, a meeting was held at the Sheraton Chateau Charles in Westlake, Louisiana, to discuss fixed point VCM monitoring (FPM). In attendance were:

L. N. Vernon	Saddle Brook
E. M. Smith	Aberdeen
R. D. Gamblin	Lake Charles - VCM
R. M. Walston	Ponca City - MED
R. E. Laramy	Ponca City - R&D
D. V. Porchey	Ponca City - R&D

In addition, B. R. Brown, Vice-President, Personnel, attended the morning session.

MED had previously arranged for Honeywell to reserve for Conoco 13 FPM hulks with associated equipment. The agreement, for which Conoco is paying $100 per day, is to expire on May 8, 1974. As one of the action steps decided upon and discussed below, our option on a portion of the reserved equipment will be exercised. FPM equipment will be placed in our VCM and PVC plants.

The following action steps were decided upon:

1. The maximum practical distance between sample point and analyzer will be determined. (RMW)

2. The feasibility of building and of operating a mobil FPM for use by LC will be evaluated. (RMW)

3. The number of units to be ordered will be determined based on the results of items 1 and 2. The number of units will be between 6 and 9. (RMW)

4. Honeywell will be informed by May 8, 1974, of our decision to exercise a portion of our equipment option. (RMW)

5. An attempt will be made with Honeywell to reserve one unit for the new Pilot Plant at Oklahoma City. No purchase commitment will be made. (RMW)

6. Timing for delivery of the Honewell units and of the sample systems and for installation of both will be estimated. (RMW)

7. AFE cost estimates will be prepared for and presented to each plant. (RMW)

Discussion:

The usefulness and limitations of FPM were discussed at length. The decision was made by the plant managers present to install FPM in their plants in order to determine more accurately the VCM level in our workplace environment and to provide documentation of those levels. Appropriate warning alarms will also be included on each unit. Goodrich is using FPM to document environments in an attempt to replace dosimeter testing. This result, if successful, could be an added benefit of FPM to Conoco.

Honeywell and Applied Automation have provided cost estimates to MED for 10-point gas chromatographic analyzers. The estimates were presented by RMW and discussed. Based primarily on price and on MED recommendations concerning reliability, availability, and experience, Honeywell GC-16 instruments were chosen for our application. The base price of each GC-16 instrument with controller and strip chart but without sample system and installation is about $7,600. The alarms may be about $1,500 each. Delivery is tentatively expected to be 60 days for the GC-16's. RMW will determine costs and timing for delivery of the sample systems. Installation cost, method, and timing alternatives will also be evaluated.

The number of points and units to be placed in each plant was discussed. Aberdeen will install four 10-point units. Oklahoma City and Lake Charles will install one unit if the physical separation between units and sample points will allow adequate sampling. If distances are too great, both locations will require a second unit. RMW will determine the maximum practical separation distance between sample points and analyzers, thus, whether or not two units are required. RDG requested that an evaluation be made to determine whether or not a portable unit could be constructed for use at the LC ship loading dock, plant fences, etc. RMW will also perform this evaluation. If a portable unit is feasible, one will be estimated for the VCM plant. The total units required is summarized as follows:

	Minimum	Possible	With Portable Unit
Aberdeen	4	4	4
OKC	1	2	2
LC-VCM	1	2	3
Total	6	8	9

RMW will also ask Honeywell to reserve a unit for use in the OKC pilot plant. No dollar commitment will be made.

D. V. Porchey

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Research Chemical Engineer
Engineering Research
Chemicals Research Division
Research and Development Department

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CC:
Attendees Listed: FK:GFT:EWB:RSM:RSM:RAF:RTF