



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Environmental Criteria and Assessment Office (MD-52)
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711

January 7, 1986

Dr. Charles G. Pfieffer
Dr. John M. Pierrard
Engineering Service Division
E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Co., Inc.
Wilmington, Delaware 19898

Dear Dr. Pfieffer and Dr. Pierrard:

Thank you for your letter of November 27, 1985, concerning "any workshops or other meetings conducted for the purpose of resolving questions on the blood lead-hypertension issue which were raised at the May, 1985, CASAC meeting." Let me first assure you that no such meetings have been or are scheduled to be held; had we considered such steps to be necessary, we would certainly have invited full participation by technical experts from DuPont and other interested parties.

It was decided at the May CASAC meeting that the best way to handle Dr. Richard Royall's questions concerning the DuPont criticisms of the Schwartz et al. work was to have Joel Schwartz prepare additional analyses which specifically addressed the points raised by Dr. Royall. In order to take full advantage of the expertise of the CASAC members, it was further decided that Jim Ware should evaluate Schwartz' response to your comments as well. Enclosed, you will find a complete record of the correspondence which passed between David Weil of my staff and Drs. Royall and Ware concerning their evaluation of Joel Schwartz' response to both the DuPont comments and to questions which they themselves raised.

Please note that it was not until the first week in November that we received Dr. Royall's final reply on this subject. Given the nature of his conclusions, as well as those of Jim Ware, we felt that the questions initially raised at the May CASAC meeting have been adequately resolved and that there is no apparent need to conduct a workshop to further evaluate this particular issue. You will of course receive a copy of the addendum prior to the upcoming CASAC meeting and will be free to comment on it at that time. (The meeting is now tentatively scheduled for early March.)

Sincerely yours,

Lester D. Grant, Ph.D.
Director, Environmental Criteria
and Assessment Office (MD-52)

Enclosure

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