

Robert L. Neunreiter -- G4NF -- 8586

DATE : February 21, 1979

cc: H. Curtis -- 1740
R. C. Isham -- B1ND
J. S. Metcalf -- B2NK
J. W. Molloy -- 1740
J. J. Spano

SUBJECT : PREPAREDNESS Q&A -- ORTHOCHLOROPHENOL
WORKERS

REFERENCE :

TO : D. R. Bishop -- A3NB
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ -- 1740
H. M. Keating -- G4WA
J. E. McKee -- A3NB
W. B. Papageorge -- G4WA
G. Roush -- A3SA
E. Tillman -- A2SB

cc *Clarne Buckley*
Joe Woltshagen
Paul Eastendy
Jim Gacy
Julio Munoz
Bill Sullivan
Phil Kink

Attached is a brief position statement concerning possible health problems among Krummrich employees working in the orthochlorophenol unit. This statement was requested by MIC in response to continuing media coverage of OCP clean-up efforts at Sturgeon, Mo.

If you have any corrections or suggestions, please let me know as quickly as practical.

R. L. Neunreiter

RLN:pa
Attachment

THIS IS A DRAFT
THE FINAL STATEMENT WAS ISSUED
2-23-79
Phil

C00871

PROPOSED PREPAREDNESS Q&A: POSSIBLE HEALTH PROBLEMS
AMONG OCP WORKERS

Q. Has Monsanto noted any health problems among employees working with orthochlorophenol?

A. We have not seen any exposure-related, adverse health problems among these workers.

Q. Is it possible that there may be undetected health problems?

A. It's possible, but highly unlikely.

Q. Why?

A. The W. G. Krummrich Plant, where OCP is manufactured, has an extensive medical surveillance program which includes preemployment and annual physicals for all workers. Each physical includes a battery of tests which help indicate potential health problems that could be produced from chemical exposure. If there was a health problem among OCP workers, it would have been detected through the medical surveillance program.

Also, two years ago we reviewed medical records of OCP workers and found no evidence of systemic health affects.

Q. Have there been any cases of chloracne?

A. No worker in the OCP unit has ever contracted chloracne. (Note: Comment based on information from Paul Heisler.)

Q. How long has Monsanto made OCP and how many workers are involved in the manufacturing process?

A. We began producing OCP in 1937-38. Between 8-10 employees currently work in the unit.