

INGAERT
AVENUE
YORK

May 25, 1951

cc: R.A. Kohoo ✓

G. Edgar

Subject: T.E.L. Recovery in
New Plants

The Development Section Progress Report for April, under Project DP 46-69, discusses the "Dry Recovery Systems", to recover T.E.L. from reaction mass without resorting to steam distillation. The interests in such methods has waxed and waned, depending mostly on the evaluation of the technical problems involved. In this last report definite hope is expressed for the filtration process but the indications in the last paragraph (Page 15) is that economically steam distillation may still be more attractive.

I presume that this economic evaluation takes into account the cost of ventilation on the still floor and over the sludge pit. Contamination studies have shown quantitatively that the major portion of the T.E.L. hazard comes from distillation. I believe that is also felt in some quarters that we are approaching in Baton Rouge the limit of the amount of T.E.L. we can discharge in the atmosphere, quite independently of the efficacy of the ventilation inside the buildings. On the basis of those two points and of our desire to give safety and health careful consideration exceeding somewhat the direct economy involved, it is my feeling that any workable process which will recover T.E.L. without ever raising its temperature much above ambient temperature has a great deal to be said for it and should be considered carefully by other groups as well as by our engineering economists.

George

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