



A/C Pipe
Producers Association

Public Affairs Committee
TO International Affairs Committee

FROM *J. F. Welch*
J. F. Welch, Director, Public Affairs

Internal Correspondence

DATE October 22, 1981

SUBJECT News Article - EPA Office of Toxic Substances

ACTION REQUIRED: Review for information

Enclosed is a news article from the Washington Post describing the confirmation hearings of Dr. John A. Todhunter, nominee for the EPA Assistant Administrator for Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

JFW/ajb

Enclosure

cc: A. Kahn, Esq.
N. Rahn, Esq.

copies to: Public Affairs Committee

H. Olson
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W. Perrell
J. Woods
J. Baker
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EPA Nominee Favors Changes in Testing

By Joanne Omang

Washington Post Staff Writer

The man nominated to run the government's main controls over toxic substances yesterday said he plans to change the ways that the Environmental Protection Agency evaluates health risks.

Although Dr. John A. Todhunter didn't say so, the changes will tend to find substances less dangerous than current procedures do.

The question of risk is thorny and central to all federal regulations, which in effect choose a level of risk and label it acceptable or unacceptable.

Todhunter, 32, told the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee that as EPA's assistant administrator for pesticides and toxic substances, he will make those choices using computer models that are different from the ones that guide those choices now.

Asked by Sen. Robert T. Stafford (R-Vt.), chairman of the committee, about his views on using data from tests on laboratory animals, Todhunter said he would continue to rely on animal tests.

"What may change is that the agency has been in the habit of using only one of several available curve-generating computer models to evaluate the tests," he said. "I will add the use of other models."

"Some of them agree [with each other], and where they do, you have greater confidence," he added.

The action could affect everything EPA does in the toxics regulation field. Laboratory animals are commonly exposed to the

chemicals in tests in an effort to determine whether the substances are dangerous to people. But they are tested at such high doses and have such short normal life spans that relating the tests to human risk is a complex business.

Scientists use computer models to process the raw test information in order to be able to say, in effect, that if so many rats develop cancer when dosed with a substance in a certain manner, at a certain level and over a certain period of time, then the risk to humans is "X" at such-and-such a dose.

Todhunter's science adviser, Dr. Richard N. Hill, said the results would be different for each model, especially at the low levels of exposure that are usually the case for people.

"It opens the option of finding lower risk than we could have found before," he said. "Also, it could find that the previous model was on target, or that the risk was even somewhat worse."

The models now most widely used, he said, tend to assume that there is no threshold level of exposure, that is, that even "one hit" of a toxic substance may cause damage.

He stressed that risk is expressed in terms of the probability of developing a health problem, like cancer, when a person is exposed to a certain amount of the substance.

Stafford asked Todhunter to provide the committee with all documents relating to EPA's decision against emergency regulation of two alleged cancer-causing substances, formaldehyde and a chemical called DEHP.



A/C Pipe
Producers Association

Public Affairs Committee

TO

FROM *J. F. Welch*
J. F. Welch, Director, Public Affairs



Internal Correspondence

September 30, 1981

DATE

SUBJECT Meeting Agenda

ACTION REQUIRED: Review for information and follow on discussion at 10/13/81 PAC meeting.

Enclosed in the order in which they appear on the meeting agenda are the following supporting documents:

- V.A Strategic Operational Plan 9/25/81 updates.
- V.A.1 Kirkland & Ellis memorandum, August 13, 1981 re proposed outline for new Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) for asbestos.
- V.A.2 List of seminars scheduled for Staff or industry presentation; AACPP press releases published to date.
- V.A.3 Staff correspondence (July 6, 1981 and August 11, 1981) outlining rationale for program.
- VI.A Staff correspondence re Draft No. 5.
- VI.B Field Problems and Litigation Report.
- VI.B.1 Connecticut Department of Health Services denial of request to defer ruling (August 19, 1981); Murtha, Cullina, Richter & Pinney correspondence (August 27, 1981) requesting withdrawal of industry's petition.
- VI.D Staff correspondence (October 2, 1981) re revision of current AACPP policy on use of A/C pipe in aggressive waters.
- VII.A Staff correspondence (October 2, 1981) re Kanarek-Conforti report published in Environmental Science and Technology, August, 1981.

Documentation, if any, pertinent to the remaining agenda topics will be distributed at the meeting.

The preliminary program for AACPP's Washington Workshop VI is being forwarded by separate transmittal.

JFW/ajb

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A/C Pipe
Producers Association

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Arlington, Virginia 22209
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June 21, 1982

Mr. Carl Woodworth
CAPCO Pipe Company, Inc.
3223 Tyrol Lane
Birmingham, AL 35226

Dear Mr. Woodworth:

This will confirm your meeting with Joe Jackson and John Welch on June 29, 1982. Other details are as follows:

Time: 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Location: Holiday Inn, Airport North
Esters Road & Highway 114
Dallas, Texas
214-255-7147

If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A/C PIPE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Mary M. Jackson

cc: A. Kahn, Esq.
L. Taylor

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