

Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION)

J. J. McClellan - O-11

March 15, 1982

cc: 1981 and 1982 SHAC Committees

SUBJECT

Recommendations to SAC Regarding
Combustibles in Texas City Control Rooms

REFERENCE

S&PP Survey of Texas City Plant, 8/31/81
New Recommendations 81-4 (attached)

TO

SAC

The 1981 SHAC Committee agrees with the recommendation in the reference report that "combustible goods inside control rooms must be minimized." The Committee had some reservations though, that the recommendations as presented may go beyond what is economically justified for many areas in the Texas City plant; i.e., "combustibles which cannot be eliminated need to be stored in a closed metal container," or "plastic trash cans in control rooms need to be replaced with containers of metal construction, preferably of approved self-extinguishing design."

In many cases these are "wants," not "musts," depending on the environment, chance of ignition, location (remoteness), amount of material or results if a fire occurred, etc. A major consideration is if smoking is allowed and this is not the case in Texas City units.

The 1981 SHAC Committee does not feel that a sweeping blanket order that all combustible materials must be stored in a metal container or all plastic waste-baskets must be discarded, etc., is in the best interest of Monsanto Texas City. The Committee does feel that reasonable continuous effort must be made to prevent the storage or accumulation of flammables in undesirable locations. The Committee recommends that the Quarterly Safety and Housekeeping Inspections be used to keep this problem under control. It is a continuing problem and must be controlled on a continuing basis. Guidance on what is or isn't acceptable may require help from LP&S or the PMSB.

Specific unit response to the examples listed in the survey were as follows:

- a. Coats and rain gear stored in the rear of the ethylbenzene control panel.

Unit supervision disagreed that this was a fire hazard.
No action planned.

- b. Cardboard boxes of plastic goggles are stored behind the control panel in the HCN Complex.

Unit supervision disagree that this is a fire hazard, but will store the goggles in a cabinet as a housekeeping measure.

SC

002161

LAM003366

March 15, 1982

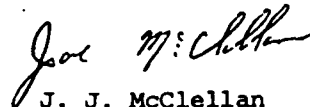
- c. Instrument drawings are stored inside the rear access doors to the control cabinets in the AN-5 control room.

I&E does not agree that the quantity and method of storing schematic drawings in the access doors to the control cabinets constitutes a significant fire hazard to justify the loss of efficiency by moving the drawings to another location. This method of storing the drawings is especially useful for emergency work. Neither AN-5 or I&E supervision plan to take any action.

- d. Plastic trash cans in control rooms need to be replaced with metal, etc.

The SHAC Committee disagrees that this is a fire hazard, especially since smoking is not allowed in the control rooms.

If you have any questions, please contact me.


J. J. McClellan
1981 SHAC Chairman

Attachment

SC

002162

LAM003367

NEW RECOMMENDATIONS

81-4 Combustibles in Control Rooms

Combustible goods inside control rooms must be minimized. A small, ordinary combustibles fire could cause a major business interruption loss. Combustibles which cannot be eliminated need to be stored in closed door metal cabinets. Examples of combustible goods exposures to control rooms include:

- a) Coats and rain gear are stored adjacent to and in the rear of the ethylbenzene control panel.
- b) Cardboard boxes of plastic goggles are stored behind the east control panel in the HCN complex control room.
- c) Instrument drawings are stored inside the rear access doors to the control cabinets in the AN-5 control room.
- d) Plastic trash cans in control rooms need to be replaced with containers of metal construction, preferably of approved self-extinguishing design.

RESPONSIBILITY: SHAC--J.J. McClellan

SC

002163

LAM003368