

SCC  
5-0585

## NOTICES

Copied by MCA.  
January 30, 1974

(6) Whether the available information warrants the issuance of an Emergency Temporary Standard, or the commencement of a regular rulemaking under section 6(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

Written data may be mailed or delivered to the Office of Standards, Attn: Docket OSH-36, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room 203, 1726 M Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20210, not later than February 28, 1974. The data will be available for public inspection and copying at the OSHA Public Reading Room, Room 203, 1726 M Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20210.

Oral presentation of data will also be received by an administrative law judge at an informal fact-finding hearing beginning at 10 a.m., e.d.t., on Friday, February 15, 1974, Conference Room B, Departmental Auditorium, Constitution Avenue NW., between 12th and 14th Streets, Washington, D.C.

Persons desiring to appear at the hearing must file with J. Goodell, Attn: Docket OSH-36, Office of Standards, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room 203, 1726 M Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20210, a written notice of intention to appear, in triplicate. Notice should be filed as soon as possible, but will be accepted by the Management Officer at the hearing until the pre-hearing conference begins. The notice should state: The name and address of the person wishing to appear; the capacity in which he will appear; and the approximate amount of time required for the presentation. The notice should also include, or be accompanied by, a brief statement of the presentation to be made.

Beginning at 9:30 a.m., e.d.t., on February 15, 1974, the presiding Administrative Law Judge will hold a pre-hearing conference in order to establish the order and time for the presentations, and in order to settle any other matter relating to the proceedings.

The oral proceedings shall be reported verbatim. The use of prepared statements by witnesses is encouraged. All documents that are intended to be submitted should be submitted in triplicate (original and two copies).

The administrative law judge shall have all the powers necessary or appropriate to conduct a fair and full informal hearing, including the powers:

- (a) To regulate the course of the hearing;
- (b) To dispose of procedural requests, objections, and comparable matters;
- (c) To confine the presentations to matters pertinent to the requested information;
- (d) To regulate the conduct of those present at the hearing by appropriate means;
- (e) In his discretion, to question and permit questioning of any witness; and
- (f) In his discretion, to keep the record open for a reasonable stated time to receive written data from any person who has participated in the oral proceeding.

Following the close of the hearing, the

presiding officer shall certify the record thereof to the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 28th day of January 1974.

JOHN H. STENDEL,  
Assistant Secretary of Labor.  
[FR Doc. 74-2004 Filed 1-29-74; 8:45 am]

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

### POSSIBLE HAZARDS OF VINYL CHLORIDE MANUFACTURE AND USE

#### Request for Information and Notice of Fact-Finding Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is requesting information on possible hazards associated with the manufacture and/or use of vinyl chloride (chloroethene, Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number 75014).

The Administration requests information including, but not necessarily limited to:

- (1) The toxicity of vinyl chloride;
- (2) The toxicity of other chemicals involved in the manufacture and use of vinyl chloride;
- (3) The technologies involved in the production and use of vinyl chloride;
- (4) Employee populations potentially or actually exposed to vinyl chloride or other chemicals, and involved in the production and/or use of vinyl chloride;
- (5) Epidemiological studies of effects of vinyl chloride and other chemicals used in the manufacture or use of vinyl chloride on populations, employee or otherwise; and

C. A. Johnson, M.D.  
M. N. Johnson, M.D.  
Flynt Kennedy  
W. A. Knapp  
H. L. Kusnetz for  
R. L. Maycock  
A. B. Lindquist  
J. R. Livingston, Jr.  
R. W. McBurney, M.D.  
Thomas McDonach  
Richard Maier  
D. A. Rausch for D. C.  
Nuechterlein  
R. J. Reynolds  
D. E. Rhoads  
W. E. Rinehart  
George Roush, Jr., M.D.  
H. L. Schmidt, Jr.  
  
L. J. Schuman  
W. M. Smith  
I. R. Tabershaw, M.D.  
T. R. Torkelson  
Anton Vittone  
  
R. N. Wheeler  
B. M. G. Zwicker  
  
B. M. Barackman  
A. C. Clark  
K. D. Johnson  
V. H. Peterson

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company  
The B. F. Goodrich Company  
Continental Oil Company  
Allied Chemical Corporation  
Shell Oil Company  
  
Stauffer Chemical Company  
Exxon Chemical Company, U.S.A.  
Diamond Shamrock Corporation  
Exxon Chemical Company, U.S.A.  
Stauffer Chemical Company  
Dow Chemical, USA  
  
Shell Chemical Company  
Tenneco Chemicals, Inc.  
Ethyl Corporation  
Monsanto Company  
Borden Chemical/Division of  
Borden, Inc.  
Continental Oil Company  
Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.  
Tabershaw-Cooper Associates, Inc.  
The Dow Chemical Company  
B. F. Goodrich Chemical Company/  
Division of The B. F. Goodrich  
Company  
Union Carbide Corporation  
B. F. Goodrich Chemical Company/  
Division of The B. F. Goodrich  
Company  
MCA Staff  
MCA Staff  
MCA Staff  
MCA Staff

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1. Report from The B. F. Goodrich Company

After the meeting was called to order by Mr. Clark, and after those present had introduced themselves to the group, this portion of the morning session was turned over to Mr. Anton Vittone. He first called upon Dr. M. N. Johnson, who summarized the chronology and clinical picture of the three cases of

angiosarcoma of the liver in Goodrich vinyl chloride workers that were the subject of their press release of January 23. This information had earlier been presented to NIOSH and the Kentucky officials, January 22 and 23, respectively. He also described their program of clinical surveillance, including SMA-12 profiles, on all employees with vinyl chloride exposure.

Dr. Zwicker then related the steps Goodrich has taken to minimize exposures, from those involving improved maintenance, housekeeping, and plant ventilation to changes in work practices. He stressed the uncertainties inherent in estimating employee exposures from random grab samples for atmospheric analyses, and described their use of portable indicating instrumentation (a Century Organic Vapor Analyzer) in detailed surveys of the work areas to identify locations for installation of permanent sampling probes for their centralized, automatic monitoring equipment (based on a Bendix 8401 Total Hydrocarbon Analyzer). This instrument, although not specific for vinyl chloride, is reliable, responds rapidly, and has an essentially linear response over three decades of concentration of vinyl chloride vapors in the air. A paper describing their system, "An Instrumental System for the Monitoring of Vinyl Chloride Monomer in Plant and Laboratory Work Areas," by L. B. Crider, was distributed to those present.

Dr. Zwicker also described Goodrich's procedures for informing employees at risk of the nature and status of the problem, and the steps that are being taken by Goodrich for their protection. Employee briefings, in small groups, were conducted by management. At the request of the employee, consultation with medical staff is being provided on an individual basis.

Dr. Irving R. Tabershaw, consultant to Goodrich and president of Tabershaw-Cooper Associates (the firm conducting the industry-sponsored mortality study of vinyl chloride workers) then was called upon to comment on the significance of the events related by the Goodrich representatives. Although acknowledging that identification of the pathology observed with vinyl chloride exposures was still tentative, he stressed the overwhelming likelihood that the three cases of angiosarcoma of the liver were related to industrial factors, and that at present, vinyl chloride exposures were by far the most significant common factor in their industrial exposure histories.

of the problem. It was the consensus that this could best be done if they were to join the group in the sponsorship of any expanded and accelerated research programs that it might undertake. MCA was asked to extend a renewed invitation to VCM and/or PVC producers who had declined to join the group at the time of its formation.

### 2.3 MCA Participation in OSHA Hearings

In anticipation of public hearings by OSHA on the emergency standards they are expected to propose for vinyl chloride, MCA was asked to prepare testimony for possible presentation at such hearings. The MCA statement would be limited primarily to a narrative history of the activities of the Association and the members of the group of companies supporting the animal exposure and epidemiological studies now underway under MCA's aegis.

### 3. Formation of Task-Group Units

It was moved, seconded and carried that the TTGVCR be instructed to organize three sub-task groups to expedite the development of plans and recommendations in the three areas referred to in item 2.1 above.

#### 3.1 Medical Sub-Task Group

Dr. M. N. Johnson was appointed by the Chairman to serve as leader pro-tem of a medical group to develop recommendations for guidelines for industry practices in the medical surveillance of workers at risk to vinyl chloride occupational exposures. Such guidelines may include, but are not limited to, recommendations as to pre-employment and routine physical examination procedures and standards, diagnostic criteria for the recognition of early or incipient injury from vinyl chloride exposures, and the medical management of such injury should it occur.

Those initially named to serve on the medical group include L. H. Ballou, M.D. (Firestone), C. H. Dernehl, M.D. (Union Carbide), D. P. Duffield, M.D. (ICI), E. M. Dixon, M.D. (Allied Chemical), R. W. McBurney, M.D. (Diamond Shamrock), and George Roush, Jr., M.D. (Monsanto).

### 3.2 Work Practices Sub-Task Group

Mr. R. N. Wheeler was appointed leader pro-tem of a group to study, identify problems, and recommend operating procedures and facility design in the manufacture, transport and consumption of vinyl chloride monomer to limit exposures to the lowest levels consistent with safety, and to secure freedom from health hazards. Specific areas of responsibility include, but are not limited to workplace air, engineering guidelines, work and operational practices, protective equipment, industrial hygiene procedures, and process modifications.

The following persons were named as members of the group: Mr. A. M. Barnes (ICI), Mr. J. T. Barr (Air Products), Dr. Z. G. Bell, Jr. (PPG), Dr. W. J. Boyne (Borden Chemical), Mr. H. R. Hoyle (Dow), Mr. H. L. Kusnetz (Shell), and Mr. Richard Maier (Stauffer).

### 3.3 Industrial Hygiene and Monitoring Sub-Group

Dr. Richard Henderson was appointed pro-tem leader of a sub-group to develop recommended practices and guidelines for the conduct of industrial hygiene monitoring and sample analysis for the evaluation of steps taken for the reduction of exposures to vinyl chloride, and to detect promptly and with confidence conditions of exposure presenting potential threat to the health and safety of workers. The design and conduct of interlaboratory comparisons of accuracy, precision and specificity of sampling and analytical procedures are to be considered specific tasks of the group.

Initial assignments to this group include Mr. A. M. Barnes (ICI), Dr. Z. G. Bell, Jr. (PPG), Mr. H. R. Hoyle (Dow), Mr. Flynt Kennedy (Continental Oil), and Dr. B. M. G. Zwicker (B. F. Goodrich).

## 4. Publicity on Vinyl Chloride Hazards

A number of articles from the European popular and technical press, relating to alleged hazards of working with vinyl chloride, were called to the attention of those present. Copies of translations of these articles are attached to, but not incorporated as a portion of, these minutes. The bibliographic references to these articles are tabulated below