

American Society for Testing and Materials

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COMMITTEE E-34 ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ASPECTS OF MATERIALS, PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL AGENTS

Organized 1972

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Address Reply To:

August 19, 1974

Mr. John Stender
Assistant Secretary
Department of Labor
Room 3115
14th & Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

Vinyl Chloride Standard

Dear Mr. Stender:

Considerable misunderstanding has arisen in some quarters about the role of Mr. G. L. Wilson in connection with the American Chemical Society (ACS) ad hoc task force on vinyl chloride.

I wish to submit some information to you to set the record straight, as a list of the ACS task force members, of which Mr. Wilson was one, was attached to the written submission made by ACS at the public hearings on the proposed vinyl chloride standard.

As Chairman of ASTM Committee E-34, I was asked by Mr. Howard H. Fawcett of the ACS Committee on Chemical Safety (CCS) to sit on the ACS task force. I designated Mr. Wilson, a Vice-Chairman of ASTM Committee E-34, to serve for me.

The task force met at ACS headquarters in Washington on May 21, 1974. It agreed that a statement by ACS was appropriate. Various members of the task force submitted information and based on this a first draft of the statement was written and circulated. Mr. Wilson and I reviewed this statement and suggested a few minor changes.

On June 14, 1974, Mr. Wilson received a third draft from Mr. Halley Merrell of the ACS along with a cover letter stating that "It would likely be helpful if the ad hoc task force and CCS members were on record as recommending Board approval of the statement. If you approve the statement, may I request that you telephone me immediately." No alternative was suggested in case of disagreement.

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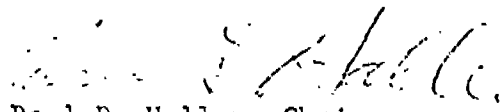
Mr. John Stander

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Mr. Wilson phoned me on June 14 and I instructed him to state to ACS that we could not endorse their statement, the substance of which differed substantially from the first draft. (No second draft was submitted to Mr. Wilson). Mr. Wilson so informed Mr. Merrell by telephone on June 14, making specific objection to the ACS position which endorsed the "no detectable level" concept.

Our disagreement with the ACS statement should not be construed as officially representing the ASTM view. On the other hand, there is, to my knowledge, no official ASTM endorsement of the ACS statement.

Very truly yours,


Paul D. Halley, Chairman
ASTM Committee E-34

cc: D. P. Bridge
H. Fawcett
G. L. Wilson

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