

Interoffice Communication

To R. E. Lehmkuhl, Room 1960, Houston
 From John Friend, Oklahoma City
 Date May 22, 1980
 Subject NEIGHBORHOOD AIR QUALITY MONITORING -- OKLAHOMA CITY

The Oklahoma City Chemical Plant has had numerous inquiries from the nearby residential neighborhood and some inquiries from the local media regarding the air quality in the neighborhood and especially the potential effects of PVC and VCM on the neighbors' health. Last spring, Dave Kuhn and I requested proposals from three companies for a neighborhood air monitoring study. The objectives of the requested study were to determine ground-level concentrations of VCM and PVC (both total and respirable PVC solids) in the neighborhood north of the Plant. In order to provide an acceptable degree of statistical significance, the study would involve multiple sampling points (most likely three) with samples taken over a proper time period (for at least four weeks when the wind is predominantly from the south).

By last summer the three proposals had been received. Analytical R&D reviewed the analytical procedures and gave no negative comments on any of the proposals. After the Plant and Dave Kuhn reviewed the proposals, we chose the Radian Corporation proposal as the most desirable. Radian's cost estimate was \$1M higher than the lowest bid; however, they had some advantage such as all in-house analytical work which made them more desirable. By the time Radian was selected (fall, 1979) it became evident that we were getting too close to the north-wind season to embark on a month-long program, so the study was deferred until 1980.

Recently during a review of these plans with Legal, it was strongly suggested that we get some idea of what the neighborhood study might reveal before going into the neighborhood. By taking particulate and VCM samples on our north fenceline, we should be able to get an indication of the results that will be obtained in the neighborhood. Of course, the fenceline data will not be the same as the data received in the neighborhood, but it should tell us if we have a problem which might lead us to forego neighborhood monitoring until the problem is solved. We therefore asked Radian to re-quote the neighborhood monitoring job and to include fenceline monitoring.

Radian has submitted a proposal which basically involves a fee for methods development and set-up, per day manpower costs, equipment rental fees, materials cost and per sample analysis fees. Their proposal is based on a three-week fenceline study and a four-week neighborhood study. Based on these time durations and the estimated number of samples, they estimate the entire job could cost \$55.7M (attached letter). However, I have talked with Radian about reducing some aspects of this job, especially the fenceline monitoring, and they are agreeable to do whatever we want at the quoted unit costs.

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Using Radian's unit costs and a reduced time frame and analysis load for the fenceline monitoring. I estimate that we can accomplish this project for a maximum of \$45M. This assumes that no additional, elaborate analytical tests will be performed beyond those originally proposed. However, before starting the job I will negotiate with Radian to determine fixed and variable costs for the project. Then to better control the costs, we will determine which samples are to be chemically analyzed (a variable cost) and how much material to purchase (i.e. sample bags). By doing this, we will have a direct control of project costs.

Your approval is requested for proceeding with this project at a maximum expenditure of \$46M. The approach to be taken should (1) allow some direct cost control, (2) provide indication of neighborhood results before entering the neighborhood, (3) allow deferral of neighborhood monitoring if fenceline results warrant and (4) provide us with quality data concerning the PVC and VCM levels in the neighborhood before some other organization collects data which may be questionable. If you have any questions, please call.

JOHN FRIEND
Plant Manager

JF-spt
Attachment
CC: JJH, JCL