

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT



January 27, 1995

Has Shah, Ph.D.
Chemical Manufacturers Association
2501 M Street NW
Washington D.C., 20037

Dear Dr. Shah:

Thank you for your phone call yesterday, following-up on a copy of a letter from this Office dated September 19, 1994 to Francoise Drion, M.D., Association of Plastics Manufacturers in Europe, regarding the worldwide registry of cases of liver angiosarcoma from occupational exposure to vinyl chloride. As explained in the letter, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Association (OEHHA) is completing a health risk assessment of exposure to vinyl chloride in a residential community immediately adjacent to a closed hazardous waste landfill.

Enclosed, as you requested, is a copy of the November 1990 interim health risk assessment of the landfill, and the October 1990 proposed identification of vinyl chloride as a Toxic Air Contaminant in California. In December 1990, the Air Resources Board adopted the unit risk value for vinyl chloride recommended in the October report (20×10^{-5} [ppb]⁻¹), $= 7.8 \times 10^{-5} / \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

In July 1991, Governor Wilson created the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA). The Hazardous Waste Toxicology Section, which prepared the interim health risk assessment, and the Air Toxicology and Epidemiology Section, which prepared the Toxic Air Contaminant report, were transferred from the Department of Health Services to OEHHA in Cal/EPA.

You mentioned the Chemical Manufacturers Association nine-member panel of manufacturers of vinyl chloride in the United States. I would like to take this opportunity to ask if any of the manufacturers could provide clarification regarding the New York resident diagnosed with liver angiosarcoma reported by Brady *et al.*, in "Angiosarcoma of the Liver: An Epidemiologic Survey", *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 1977, 59(5): 1383-11385. The authors state "Of possible importance is the fact that the ambient emissions of VC monomer for the factory located approximately 1,700 feet from the residence of patient #10 were as high as 92,800 parts per million in 1975."

I am looking forward to receiving the articles and information you are sending, and to further discussions with you.

Sincerely,

Lillian J. Kelly, M.P.H.
Associate Hazardous Materials Specialist
Hazardous Waste Toxicology Section

Enclosure

