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VCM Exposure Levels,
Suspension/Non-Solvent
Vinyls Department

Based on eight-hour TWA personnel monitoring results, observations and data from vinyl chloride VFA analyzer, the following statements can be made for the Suspension/Non-Solvent Vinyl Area at Texas City.

The unit is not meeting the 8-hour TWA limit of 1 ppm as proposed in the OSHA permanent standard. The estimated work place exposure has normally been about 5-10 ppm. Recent incomplete data obtained since equipment revisions to stop routine releases of several VCM containing streams to the atmosphere indicate substantial improvement to below 5 ppm. Additional experience and data are needed to verify this.

Specifically, the typical workplace exposure levels are normally as follows:

Bldg. 120/174 Control Rooms: less than 1 ppm.

Suspension Autoclaves, second level: less than 5 ppm.

Suspension Autoclaves, first level: less than 10 ppm.

Non-Solvent Autoclaves, second level: less than 5 ppm.

Non-Solvent Autoclaves, first level: less than 5 ppm.

Compressor Room: less than 10 ppm - less than 25 ppm at 95 percent of time (problem area).

Tank Area 4: less than 5 ppm - less than 25 ppm at 97 percent of time.

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2.

Drying Area (outside): less than 10 ppm (based on carbon tube data only).

Pilot Plant: less than 5 ppm - less than 25 ppm at 99+ percent of time.

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