

FROM R. T. Cheng

IN REPLY
REFER TO RTC 76:128

TO H. T. Miller, Ph.D.

DATE Oct 14, 1976

SUBJECT MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - OCTOBER, 1976

I. NEW PROJECTS

- A. General Atomic Company - Thallium Poisoning?
Thallium was used in a density separation experiment. Industrial Hygiene survey showed good work and hygiene practices. However, one worker was suspected of Thallium poisoning by one clinical test. Further clinical tests have been conducted and results pending.
- B. Westcoast Production Division - GEM - Trip to Yorba Linda Production Field and Bakersfield area for the evaluation of a noise reduction stack silencer unit.
The silencer will be installed on a heater treater to control community noise problem.
- C. Industrial Asphalt Company - Reports to Industrial Asphalt Company advising on the toxicity of diatomaceous earth and a motor degreasing solvent.
- D. General Atomic Company - Air pollution control reevaluation of all General Atomic's air pollution emission sources with respect to the newly published San Diego Air Pollution Control District's Permit Fee System.

II. COMPLETED PROJECTS

- A. Santa Fe Springs Refinery - HF study reported results of a recent HF survey conducted at Santa Fe Springs Refinery. Results showed no significant exposures.
- B. General Atomic Company - Clean Room sampling GA's #2 clean room and results showed the cleanliness can satisfy the Class 3 air cleanliness standard.
- C. General Atomic Company - Breathing Air Test.
All five breathing air units at General Atomic Company were tested for air contaminants to comply with OSHA standard.
- D. China Gulf Plastics Company - An industrial hygiene survey report will be submitted to China Gulf Plastics Company for the survey conducted during August, 1976. Briefly, CGPC's workers were still over-exposed to vinyl chloride (TWA = 50 ppm, ceiling - over 2000 ppm) and solvents (MEK, Toluene, Benzene). They were also over-exposed to mercury, lead and cadmium, and heat stress.

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III. PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- A. General Atomic Company - Employee Training.
Employee Industrial Hygiene Training Class will be held at least once every month. Subjects during October are noise and dermatitis. Groups involved this month are from the Fuel Recovery Pilot Plant.
- B. SRC Industrial Hygiene Program - In September, a program reviewing meeting was held at plant site to discuss the progress and future direction of the SRC Industrial Hygiene Project. A tentative Industrial Hygiene Monitoring Program was planned for next year when the Pilot Plant switches to SRC II producing liquid products.

IV. OUTSIDE BUSINESS - None.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Attending staff conference in Harmarville.
- B. Reviewed two Hazardous Experiment Authorization Requests for General Atomic.
- C. Noise survey at General Atomic's Test Tower site during GCFR Fuel Element Pressure Test. Noise up to 138 dBA was recorded. Employees are wearing ear muffs.

Bob

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RTC/ELK