PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
DOW-517

DEPOSITION EXHIBIT
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ETHYL CORPORATION

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W. F. Armstrong
F. Conrad
M. F. Gautreaux
M. L. Gould
G. Roush, M.D.

To Distribution

Address

From W. E. Rinehart, Sc.D.

Address New Orleans

Subject MCA Vinyl Chloride

Date February 5, 1973

On January 30, I attended a meeting in Washington, D.C. of the coordinating group of the subject committee. The European Group was represented by Dr. David Duffield of ICI. A copy of the agenda is attached. Copies of the official minutes will be distributed when received. This memo is to review highlights and initiate thinking on certain items for which action may be required. It was announced that Goodyear has joined the MCA group and there is a verbal communication that Diamond-Shamrock will also join.

Torkelson, from Dow, reviewed a meeting he attended in Italy with the European Group. A summary is attached. Apart from some minor matters of experimental protocol, the study is considered good and all agreed the results certainly indicate a positive carcinogenic effect above (or at?) 250 ppm. In discussion, it was agreed the U.S. study on rats and mice should proceed at the exposure levels tentatively recommended in our previous meeting and with the addition of a third species (hamsters). This will increase the cost and a revised budget ($200M vs $165M) was recommended for approval. Since this increase will have to be ratified by the member companies, MCA staff was directed to institute the contact with Industrial Biotest for a shorter exposure period than originally planned (so as to stay within present budget) with an option to extend, which will be effected as soon as the necessary funds are guaranteed. MCA will prepare and distribute a revised pro-rata cost. If my arithmetic is correct, the increased budget and the addition of Goodyear and Diamond as "partners" is considered, Ethyl's new share will be about $10,200 or an increase of $1455 over our present committment of $8745.

Regarding industrial hygiene, no "poll" was taken but Dow, Goodrich and Uniroyal announced they are doing some monitoring. I had heard previously that Shell was planning for it but nothing was said openly. Bell of PPG had asked me several weeks ago if we were and suggested we (Ethyl and PPG) should consider

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it (possibly with a joint agreement on methodology). From what Dow, Goodrich and Uniroyal said, they are finding lots of variability among workers with TWA's (time weighted average) of 20 - 350 ppm and occasional peaks up to 2000.

Dow is also attempting to do its own in-plant epidemiology study. This was described and the details are attached. There is as yet no data analysis because they have only information collected on about ¼ of their vinyl workers. Dr. Duffield remarked ICI had looked at histories of its own employees. They found no increase in cancer but the group was small and exposure could only be estimated as slight, moderate, heavy or unknown.

No action has yet been taken on the industry epidemiologic study discussed in our last meeting. It was recommended that a questionnaire be distributed to see if enough information could be gathered to make it worthwhile to consider such a study. Since I already know what the questions will be, an early start will make it easier to respond at the time the questionnaire arrives. The questions are as follows:

1. How long has your company handled (manufacture or process) VCM on a commercial basis?

2. How many locations and where are they?

3. Can you estimate how many of your present employees are

   a. Currently exposed?
   b. Have been exposed at least 1 year over 10 years ago?
   c. Have been exposed at least 1 year over 15 years ago?
   d. Have been exposed at least 1 year over 20 years ago?

4. Can you provide an estimate of those who were exposed over 10 years ago who have since left, retired or died? Are the names of these people available? Are copies of death certificates on any of these available from company or insurance records?

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5. Can the degree of exposure (by years and/or concentration) be estimated for any of them?

6. If medical records are available on any of these, how far back do they go?

A question was raised regarding public relations aspects of this matter and MCA staff if prepared to state (if approached) that MCA is cognizant of Viola's work, presently has additional studies underway and is considering epidemiologic studies. Dow indicated they have been considering (in the interest of self-protection) advising their customers to tighten up operations as much as possible in antiticipation of a probable gross lowering of the TLV. They plan to do this on the basis of the recommendation they made for a TLV of 50 ppm when they published the toxicity data in 1961. They have not yet decided the exact details of the approach they will use with customers. Dow also is questioning the aspect of making sales of VCM when the known end use is as an aerosol propellant since the market is small but potential liability is great. All attendees were requested to bring this to the attention of marketing, legal and insurance groups for attention.

Action Items:

1. Consider acceptance of increased budget for animal studies. (I recommend approval). Attention - Dr. Gautreaux.

2. Consider institution of personnel and area monitoring. Attention - Mr. Armstrong.

3. Consider our response to the questionnaire on data availability. Attention - Mr. Armstrong.

4. Consider our response re tightening up operations. (Internal and customers). Attention - Messrs Armstrong and Gould.

5. Consider aspects of sale for known use as aerosol propellant and soliciting opinion from legal and insurance. Attention - Mr. Gould.

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W. E. Rinehart, Sc.D.

Attachments