

March 23, 1942

Mr. John S. Cole
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
1411 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, Washington

Dear Jack:

Referring to your letter of March 19, describing the dismantling of tanks at the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, Casper, Wyoming, I should say that there would seem to be no reason for treating this tank as a special case. We recognize that lead is deposited on the lap portion of the sheet, but have not found that this constitutes a measurable hazard in dismantling, since the material remains covered until the rivets are all out and the sheet is taken down. The amounts of organic lead, moreover, found on these side sheets are insignificant, although, as has been found at Casper, definite amounts of inorganic lead may be present. If these sheets are to be cleaned and brushed or if for any reason much dust is liberated in dismantling, the men should either wear a dust respirator or some type of oily coating put on the surface of the sheet to suppress the dust.

I may not have followed clearly the procedure that you describe as being followed at Casper. I gather that the sheets themselves are perfectly clean and the only lead that has been found is in the places where the sheets overlap, and then only on a strip of one sheet, where it has been covered by another and is not accessible for cleaning. If that interpretation is true, I think we have no reason for concern provided dismantling is carried out in the usual fashion and excessive quantities of dust are not raised.

I should like to take advantage of the opportunity to make a trip to Casper, but alas, can find no excuse for doing so.

With best regards, I am

Cordially,