

GENERAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION

COPY

Vernon - May 24, 1948

Mr. J. L. Betts,
HIGGINS BUILDING

Dear Sir:

RE: [REDACTED]

Referring to your letter of May 18th, I have again discussed with Mr. E. E. Boudinot the subject of cleaning tank cars and the possibility that the types of clothing and equipment we furnish our men while performing this operation might be inadequate protection against lead poisoning caused from Ethyl gasoline contamination.

This matter was brought to our attention and checked the early part of May, 1947 when Mr. [REDACTED] complained of this same ailment. In an effort to determine whether or not we were using safe procedure, Mr. Boudinot and myself both contacted Mr. Chenault of the Ethyl Corporation on the subject and were informed that the Ethyl Corporation's Medical Department, after making a thorough study of the problem, came to the conclusion that sludge deposits from mobile equipment, that is, ships, automotive equipment, railroad tank cars, etc., is so low in Ethyl content that they make no recommendations regarding the use of white coveralls, gloves or other protective clothing while cleaning or working in the above equipment.

In view of the information supplied by Mr. Chenault, we see no reason for changing our method of doing this work as it is in accord with the safe practices as recommended and outlined by the American Petroleum Institute, and is in conformity with present regulations as stated in Title 8, California State Safety Orders.

I might suggest that Dr. Johnstone be made aware of the Ethyl Corporation's study of this problem.

Yours very truly,

/S/ J. H. McKENZIE

J. H. McKENZIE

JHMc:D

CC Mr. V. F. Grace
Mr. E. E. Boudinot
Dr. E. P. Luongo