

TO D. M. Hersh

AT Flemington

DATE April 4, 1984

FROM R. A. Donovan

AT Flemington

COPY TO

SUBJECT Activity Report - March, 1984I. Safety

There were no injuries in the Production, Warehouse, or Boiler House Departments during the month.

March's shift safety meetings addressed the topic fork truck operation safety. A movie was shown highlighting fork truck safety rules.

A survey of the Plant's electrical breaker system was conducted, documenting the service for the numerous breakers throughout the Plant.

II. Statistics

Attachment I

Production Summary

Attachment II

Production & Loss Report

Attachment V

Overtime Analysis

III. Personnel

One ICWU employee was given a three (3) day suspension for excessive absenteeism. A second ICWU employee was issued a letter of reprimand for a poor attendance record.

On March 22, 1984 a Union-Management safety meeting was held with the ICWU safety representative.

During March, the Relief Operators were utilized to cover 288 hours of vacation, absenteeism, suspension, physical and construction watch coverage on a straight time basis.

IV. Costs

1. Variable cost estimate for March favorable due to lower than budget price of No. 6 oil and purchased electricity.
2. Fixed cost estimate unfavorable for March due to the following:
 - a) unbudgeted shutdown accrual of \$35M, to be reversed in July.
 - b) unbudgeted well drilling, testing and permit fees in EPA cost center of \$20M (for groundwater corrective action plan)
3. Conversion cost estimate for March favorable due to high production volume. March's production of 7272 M lbs. is the highest attained for a 31 day month in our present mode of operation. Two key factors contributing to this high productivity were:

- a) higher than normal equipment on-stream times
- b) ample availability of cold chilled water due to seasonal temperature variation.

V. Major Projects and On-Going Programs

Installation of the positive steam shutoff valves for the reactors was completed in March.

Development of an overall VCM/VAM material balance was completed in March. As a result, a yield improvement program was established and work continues on improving VCM/VAM yield.

Improvements to large boiler were successful in increasing maximum capacity to 31,000 pounds per hour, enabling the small boiler to be shut down much earlier than expected.

VI. Environmental

Reactor Building VCM levels averaged 0.1 ppm in March.

Reactor vapors samples averaged 941 ppm in March.

Stripped slurry samples averaged 201 ppm in March.

VII. Opportunities

An alternate supplier (Hess Oil) for fuel oil was obtained in March, whose price is 2.8¢ per gallon cheaper than our normal suppliers. Use of Hess on a 50% basis provides opportunity for a \$1500 per month savings in fuel oil costs.

VIII. Vulnerabilities

Nothing to report.

IX. Industry Trends

March's shipments were strong. A good deal of pre-buying was experienced toward the end of the month in the face of an April 1st price increase; shipments for April are projected lower as a result.

X. General Comments

Nothing to report.



R. A. Donovan

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