

July 20, 1940

Dr. R. R. Sayers
Director
U. S. Bureau of Mines
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Sayers:

I looked about for you at the meetings of the American Association of Industrial Hygienists and also at the American Medical Association but was unable to find you. I dare say you were too busy to be present at either.

I wished to talk with you briefly in order to find out by what means and with whom I should undertake a discussion of certain aspects of the hygienic affairs of Ethyl Gasoline Corporation since certain changes have occurred, by reason of a decision of the Supreme Court and the action of the Department of Justice. There are several points about which it is necessary for me to have a complete understanding with the Public Health Service. Accordingly I should appreciate it very much if you would let me know who has succeeded you in the responsibility for this matter, or alternately you might tell me how I could best approach this matter with the Public Health Service.

There is one aspect of the matter which is particularly troublesome and I am sure you will be interested in this point regardless of its irrelevance to your present activities. Various small tetraethyl lead manufacturing activities have developed in various parts of the country and with the expiration of the Ethyl patents which will occur reasonably soon, there will, of course, be no obstacle, except the economic one, to an increase in these enterprises. Just to the extent that manufacturers find it difficult to compete on a price basis, they will resort to cheaper methods of production with the inevitable result that the dangers will be uncontrolled and serious difficulties will occur. Just what to do about this and what might be the attitude of the Public Health Service toward it is the thing which concerns me. In any case I would appreciate very much having your suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

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