

From: Gaasbeek, Aart AP SI-PXE
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2000 11:40 AM (GMT)
To: De Jong, Geert G SI-HE/2 <Geert.G.deJong@SI.shell.com>
Cc: Ransdell, Jerry JD SCC <JR191826@MSXSCC.SHELL.COM>; Mallett, Anthony AK SC-CHSE-TM <Anthony.K.Mallett@OPC.shell.com>; Fraser, Alistair AE SHLOIL <AF777405@MSXSOC.SHELL.COM>; Tsai, Shan SP SHLOIL-SPS <ST196949@MSXSOC.SHELL.COM>; Priston, Robert RAJ SC-CHSE-BP <Robert.A.Priston@OPC.shell.com>; Clarke-Sturman, Tony A SIPC-OMF/4 <Tony.A.Clarke-Sturman@OPC.shell.com>; Huisman, Bernard B SI-HE <Bernard.B.Huisman@SI.shell.com>; Kulak, Linton L SCAN-HSSD <Linton.Kulak@shell.ca>; Steup, David R Alliance <DRSteup@equiva.com>; Owen, David DE SC-CHSE-DO <David.E.Owen@OPC.shell.com>
Subject: RE: Proposed epidemiological and human health studies in China

Geert,

This topic has also been discussed in the IPIECA Strategic Issues Assessment Forum as part of the EMBSI Health Issues contract. I will send you the relevant documentation and you can judge whether the contents merits further circulation

Regards

Aart Gaasbeek

Group HSE Assurance Adviser

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-----Original Message-----

From: Owen, David DE SC-CHSE-DO

Sent: donderdag 28 september 2000 18:46

To: De Jong, Geert G SI-HE/2

Cc: Ransdell, Jerry JD SCC; Mallett, Anthony AK SC-CHSE-TM; Fraser, Alistair AE SHLOIL; Tsai, Shan SP SHLOIL-SPS; Priston, Robert RAJ SC-CHSE-BP; Clarke-Sturman, Tony A SIPC-OMF/4; Huisman, Bernard B SI-HE; Gaasbeek, Aart AP SI-PXE; Kulak, Linton L SCAN-HSSD; Steup, David R Alliance

Subject: RE: Proposed epidemiological and human health studies in China

Sensitivity: Confidential

Geert,

Thanks for this input.

I have already made Tony (Mallett) aware that we must review the broader aspects of this China study. This will include Legal (already flagged) and Public Affairs considerations. This will be an internal (Shell) debate. Tony will contact you next week. If there is feedback on this note from within the Health community can you act as focal point to feed into the discussions?

Regards,

David

David Owen, CHSE-DO

Manager, Health and Environmental Sciences

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From: De Jong, Geert G SI-HE/2

Sent: 28 September 2000 16:22

To: Steup, David R Alliance

Cc: Ransdell, Jerry JD SCC; Mallett, Anthony AK SC-CHSE-TM; Owen, David DE SC-CHSE-DO; Fraser, Alistair AE SHLOIL; Tsai, Shan SP SHLOIL-SPS; Priston, Robert RAJ SC-CHSE-BP; Clarke-Sturman, Tony A SIPC-OMF/4; Huisman, Bernard B SI-HE; Gaasbeek, Aart AP SI-PXE; Kulak, Linton L SCAN-HSSD

Subject: Proposed epidemiological and human health studies in China

Importance: High

Sensitivity: Confidential

David,

I understand that you are the Alliance representative in the API benzene working group, which is involved in above project proposal.

I attended a presentation by Dr. Pat Beathy (Chevron) and Dr. Rob Schnatter (Exxon Mobil), which was held on 26th September at CONCAWE offices in Brussels. I attended as member of the CONCAWE Health Management Group. Tony Mallett attended on behalf of Shell Chemicvals London.

It is obvious that the studies provide an unique opportunity to examine health effects among highly exposed benzene workers in China.

The scientific aspects of the studies, as well as the potential benefits (to the oil / chemical industry in the USA and Europe viz-a-viz regulatory developments etc.) were well explained. The total cost of the project would be about 7 million US\$ (during a 5 years study period).

However, there are important ethical considerations. The presenters were aware of (most of?) these considerations and they indicated how these would be addressed. However, a detailed plan on how these are going to be addressed is not available. Some other aspects may not have been examined carefully enough by the researchers, including the following:

- what are the benefits to the community in China? (in addition to the laboratory which is already being set up in Shanghai)
- what is the Chinese component of the overall project (in other words how much will be invested in China, how much for the researchers in the USA)
- how will the study help to improve working conditions (in a sustainable manner).
- is there a plan with clear deliverables etc. addressing this?
- how will the study contribute to local capacity building (apart from training of some local lab technicians)
- how will the study help to improve occupational health management and infrastructure in China etc.

etc.

Potential reputation issues have insufficiently been addressed so far, in my view.

I have discussed this amongst others with Dr Gordon Ebbon of Texaco Europe. He will raise the issue through his channels in Texaco.

Above considerations are probably not new. The reason to alert you and others is mainly to make sure that various interested parties in Shell get involved in the discussion and that we come up with a common point of view when individual business sectors are approached with the request to sponsor the study.

Tony Mallett will be setting up a meeting within the next few weeks to discuss the 'chemicals' view on the proposed studies.

Your comments and of those copied are most welcome,
kind regards
Geert de Jong
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