



Interoffice Communication

To : OSHA File
From : A. H. Sather
Date : March 2, 1984
Subject : VCM RELEASE

At 2:00 p.m. today, I called the OSHA Area Director, A. deJean King, Jackson, Mississippi to report the following incident.

"Between 4:35 and 4:45 p.m. on March 1, 1984, a release of vinyl chloride occurred from a railcar at the Aberdeen, Mississippi Chemical Plant. At the time of the release, the car was in the process of being unloaded.

The car moved from the location where it was chocked and caused the unloading hoses to be pulled loose from the unloading connections on the car.

We suspect that four employees were overexposed to vinyl chloride without respiratory protection and medical surveillance has been done.

The causes of the incident are unclear at this time. A team of plant personnel has been formed to make these determinations".

Mr. King interrupted after a portion of the narrative was read and asked if there were any fatalities involved. I said "no". He then said he was going to transfer me to an I.H. supervisor. He transferred me to a Mr. Butler.

After reading the prepared statement to Mr. Butler, he took my name, title and phone number and said an industrial hygiene supervisor would return my call.

In a few minutes, Mr. Lauren Canada called back. I read the statement to him. He asked if the overexposures resulted in Narcosis or hospitalization. I responded by saying "nothing that serious. We suspect that they were exposed to levels above 100 ppm VCM for short periods of time". He accepted that explanation and asked that a report be sent to Mr. King at:

Federal Building, Suite 1445
100 West Capital Street
Jackson, MS 39201

A. H. Sather

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rah

cc: JF, CRM, PEM, JUV