THE MEDICAL CENTER CLINIC
8333 NORTH DAVIS HIGHWAY
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 32504

November 3, 1975

J. F. ODOM
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Mr. Joseph Odom, Personnel Manager
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
P. O. Box 467
Pensacola, Florida 32592

Dear Joe:

I have talked with Dr. Kuschner. He reviewed the liver biopsies on [redacted] and found absolutely no evidence of any change attributable to exposure to vinyl chloride monomer.

He also reviewed the slides that Dr. Dan Lucas provided of a liver biopsy on a former employee. Again, this showed some fatty infiltration but no evidance of vinyl chloride damage. I don't recall that one's name.

Finally, on people like [redacted] et al, once we have studied them exhaustively, including a negative liver scan, he feels that we can just check a complete laboratory profile every six months.

Finally, Dr. Kuschner wanted us to consider finding a liver expert in this area who could review all of the information and see the patients like [redacted]. I have talked with Dr. Kniffen at West Florida Regional Hospital in Gainesville, who is the nearest thing we have to a hepatologist in this area. He is anxious to review the information and see the men. Dr. Kuschner is particularly interested in an opinion about just the abnormal liver function tests, not particularly a possible relationship to vinyl chloride, as I understand it. He was going to clear this with Mr. Watson. Dr. Kniffen has been taking care of several of our patients with active aggressive hepatitis, using steroids and immunosuppressants and should be able to help us, hopefully. Best personal wishes. [I don't know how your liver function test turned out so well!]

Sincerely,

Barkley Beidleman, M.D., F.A.C.P.

BB/cr

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