

THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY

Midland, Michigan, U.S.A.

September 29, 1937

In Reply Please Refer To
Leland I. Doan

Mr. John H. Schaefer
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
Box 1271
Wilmington, Delaware

My dear John:

I have your letter of the 23rd and appreciate the manner in which you have raised the question concerning our use of tetraethyl lead. Tetraethyl lead is used in very small percentage as a catalyst in the preparation of a plastic material, and is so used in a closed system. At the end of the reaction the product is separated from the reaction mixture and is entirely free from tetraethyl lead. No attempt to recover tetraethyl lead from the process is contemplated. A large proportion of that present decomposes during the reaction and the residue is discarded to the sewer with wash water. We are trying to find something that will replace tetraethyl lead in the process, realizing full well the poisonous properties of the product.

We appreciate your reasons for being apprehensive about any new developments involving tetraethyl lead, and if you care to send one of your safety engineers to Midland we would certainly welcome an opportunity to discuss with him the proper precautions in the manner of handling, ventilation, medical supervision, and the like.

I would suggest when Mr. Colvin comes to Midland he arrange to see our Dr. W. R. Veazey, who is entirely familiar with the project, and with whom I have discussed your letter.

With very kindest regards -

Yours very truly,

Leland I. Doan
General Sales Manager

ltd

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