bcc: H. Bergen - B2SL
W. B. Papageorge - B2SK
J. Stapleton - B2SA
W. Withers - B2SA

December 17, 1974

Mr. Mort Whitney, Manager
Product Quality and Safety
West Bend Company
West Bend, Wisconsin 53095

Dear Mr. Whitney:

I apologize for the delay in confirming our telephone discussion concerning the acute toxicity of our former fire-resistant heat transfer fluid, FR-3. Illness and an unexpected trip to Europe have kept me out of the office.

As I told you on the telephone, the oral lethal dose of FR-3 in rats was determined to be approximately 11,900 milligrams per kilogram of body weight. For comparison purposes, the Federal Hazardous Substances Labeling Act defines "Highly toxic substances" as those materials with a lethal oral dose in rats of 50 milligrams or less per kilogram, and "Toxic substances" as those with a lethal dose of between 50 mg/kg and 5000 mg/kg.

We do not have a lethal dose in animals as a result of inhalation of vapors but from infrequent mishaps during manufacture, we conclude that man would not inhale voluntarily enough vapors to result in serious illness. The vapors are irritating to the eyes and respiratory tract at levels which serve to limit exposure of any consequence.

You mentioned that you had replaced FR-3 with our THERMINOL 66. You may be interested in learning that the oral lethal dose in rats of this material is approximately 10,200 milligrams/kg. Within the limits of toxicological significance at such dosage levels, this number is comparable to the dose previously cited.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas

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and a Happy Holiday Season.

Very truly yours,

Elmer P. Wheeler
Director, Environmental Health

/bkp

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