

2/13/87

Jack,

There is concern within the Ad Hoc Dioxin Risk Characterization group that we should be doing what we can to "bring all of the Federal agencies along" with us as we develop this effort.

As my recent notes have indicated, there is some concern as to "where folks (other agencies) are coming from" on this issue right now. For example, Vern Houk seems to be shifting his position somewhat.

Therefore, the Ad Hoc group would like to enlist your support (and Vaun's) in sounding out these other agencies -- at a high level -- as to where they are coming from. Specifically, it would good to get the current views of the following:

- a. FDA -- It would be helpful if you called Sandy Miller to tell him about our exercise and get a sense from him about their view of the dioxin world.
- b. NCTR/AOWG -- You have been designated the Agency's person on CCERP. In addition, you are a former Chair of the AOWG Science Panel. On both counts, you might make a call to Ron Hart, tell him a bit about our activity, and get his reaction to it.
- c. NIEHS -- Vaun is going to chat with Dave Rall. You might want to do the same.
- Vaun* d. ATSDR -- ~~Peter~~ will be chatting with Barry Johnson, who really hasn't played in the "dioxin" arena, but he might have some insights.
- e. CDC -- As we discussed, I will be talking with Renate Kimbrough next week.

The key person, in the eyes of the Ad Hoc Committee, is the somewhat enigmatic Vern Houk, given his possible movement on the issue. The Committee has suggested that Vaun invite Vern and Renate to DC to discuss the issue with him and you: Him -- because he has the lead on the subject; You -- because you have a firmer grip on the subject.

*Vaun has agreed. If you disagree, you should contact him.*

It would be most helpful if you could touch bases a and b sometime next week (Feb. 17-20).

Dick is also involved with the Characterization activity and could assist you in this matter.

Don B.