

INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

Westlake, Louisiana
July 18, 1969

TO: Mr. K. R. Gerhart - Saddle Brook

SUBJECT: Environmental Health Report
Continental VCM Plant, June 1969

Enclosed is a list of the environmental health activities at the Vinyl Chloride Plant during June 1969.

Status of Active Budgeted Items:

V-1 Revision to Plant Effluent System.

Water Waste Disposal System. The critical path item, a neutralization tank, has been placed on order with delivery expected during the week of November 10, 1969. Plans are being made to place the other major components on order during July. Several changes were made to the design; these include, elimination of one (1) clam shell pit, deletion of the steam knockout pot, elimination of one trench, and uprating the steam capacity of the stripper system to meet current plant operation.

C-500 Vent Stack Extension. Construction is scheduled to start in July.

V-4 Tank Car Vent Recovery System.

Mechanical design is complete. The foundation work is complete. Piping installation is scheduled to begin during the week of July 21, 1969.

V-8 Low Pressure Condensate Recovery System.

Process engineering design is approximately 80% complete. This should recover steam that is currently lost to the atmosphere and lower temperature of plant effluents.

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Enclosed are typical analyses for water and air pollution sampling.

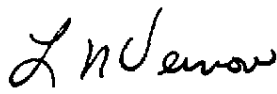
Trouble was found in analyzing for BOD. The source of this problem was traced to the biodegradation of ethylene dichloride to form HCl, thus lowering the pH of the sample and killing off of the seed. Preliminary tests with clam shell indicate that the pH may be maintained with agitated clam shells.

A water pollution complaint was made by Mrs. C. F. Walker to the Conoco Refinery regarding odor of the Bayou Verdine. The Refinery notified the VCM Plant and we conducted our own investigation. Mrs. Walker's residence is 4000 ft. upstream of the point where the VCM effluent enters the Bayou. The odor of the Bayou in back of her residence is similar to high sulfur and oils. A sample of this effluent showed EDC concentration to be 66 ppm with a pH of 7.8. A test sample of EDC in this concentration shows no detectable odor. Thus it was concluded that the VCM Plant was not at fault.

The preliminary sizing and engineering of the secondary system were 50% complete. The planning and estimating groups were informed of this effort and agreed to work with plant process engineering for input into next year's budget.

The environmental health manual outline was prepared and submitted to Saddle Brook for comments.

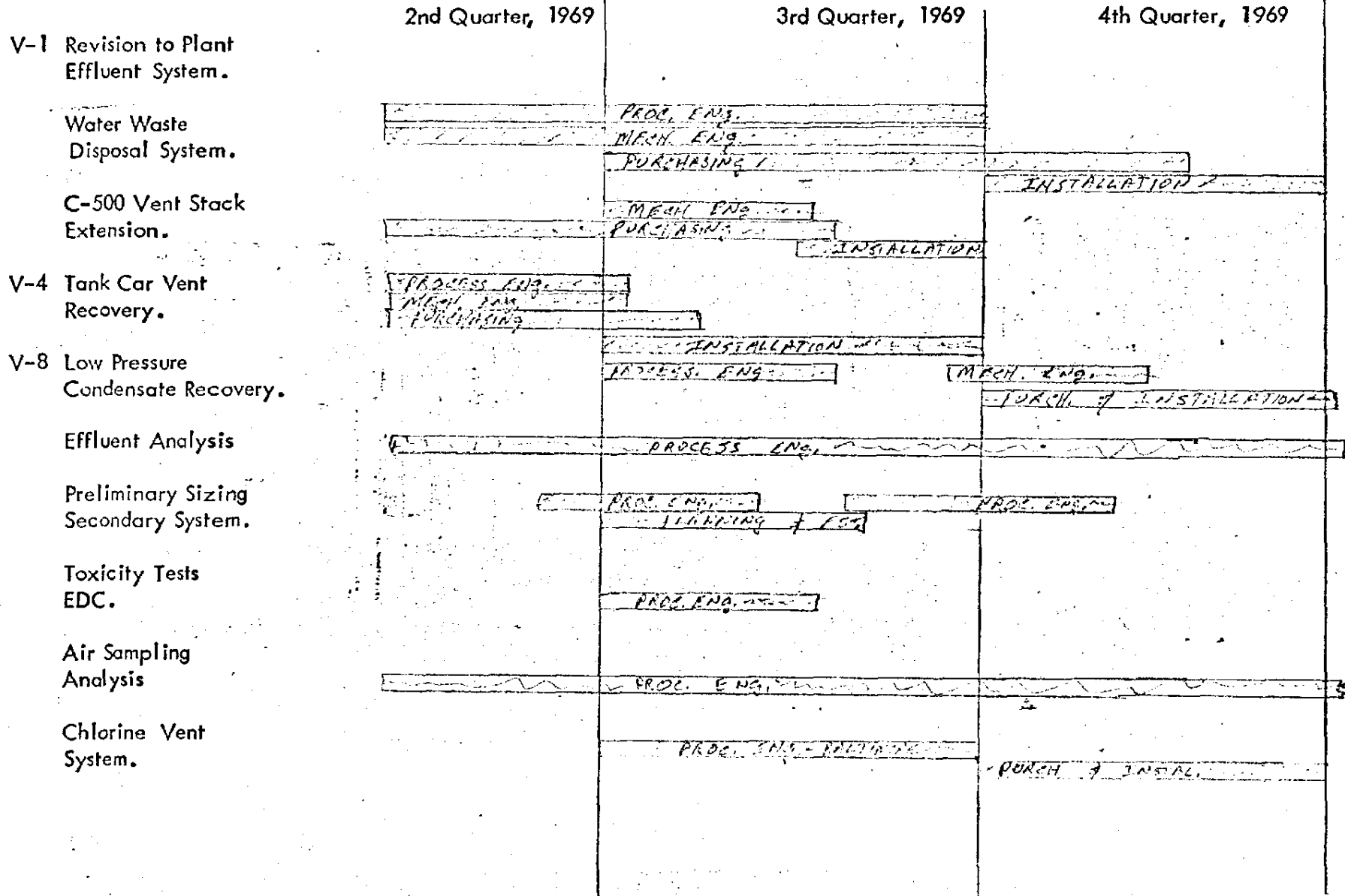
Toxicity tests for fish in water contaminated with EDC were set up with Betz Laboratories and are currently being conducted.


L. N. Vernon

LNV-MC
cc: DKP
RHG
PMW

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Environmental Health Activities--VCM Plant



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