

STAND-BY RELEASE - 3/30/81

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We are still waiting for the federal government National Institute of Safety and Health (NIOSH) to complete its two studies on brain tumor deaths at our Texas City, Texas petrochemical plant. Union Carbide Corporation has finished gathering the data for the study and submitted it to NIOSH. Our latest information is that NIOSH hopes to finish its report by mid-April.

Union Carbide has controls and procedures in place at its Texas City chemical plant to keep any worker exposure within safe limits for any materials known or suspected to pose health problems. In fact, in many cases exposure levels are far lower than required by the government. Of the 18 employee deaths which are being studied none involved an employee who was hired at the plant after 1954. This seems to indicate that if there was a problem it may have been related to practices of several years ago.

Of the 8,851 employees who have worked at the plant over the past 37 years, a total of 982 have died over the years from various causes. Less than two percent of the deaths are due to primary brain tumors under study by NIOSH. Carbide is committed to operating the safest possible plant for its employees and the surrounding communities. If at any time anything new is learned from these studies or on our own, appropriate action will be taken immediately to insure the safety and health of our employees.

Dictated by Ann Haughton 3/30/81

UCC 097241