bcc 1070 H. R. Ford/C. L. Clay
B2SH C. Paton/J. J. Roder

September 29, 1971

Mr. Austin W. West, Jr.
General Production Mgr.
Reichhold Chemicals Inc.
Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401

Dear Mr. West:

The abstract (volume 75 - 1971) referred to in your letter of September 20 describes a treatment for Therminol FR-1 heat transfer systems to retard the effect of acidity on the system metallurgy as a result of decomposition of the fluid.

The technique will only give satisfactory results with clean system internals. That is to say, the internal metallurgy of the system must be chemically clean before a satisfactory result is obtained. It has been our experience that the degree of cleaning obtainable in an installed Therminol FR heat transfer system is not sufficient to successfully employ this technique.

Inasmuch as you have an installed heat transfer system using our Therminol FR product, I would like to relate our concern over any release of this fluid to the environment. Therminol FR-1 contains polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), a chemistry which has been identified as a persistent pollutant in nature. The PCB concentration in our environment has increasingly come under the scrutiny of various governmental agencies and scientific laboratories. In some studies, certain PCBs have been found to be so persistent an environmental contaminant that possible injury to certain forms of bird, aquatic, and animal life could result. Accordingly, it is very important that PCBs be kept out of the food chain.

In light of the concern shown over PCBs we are encouraging all users of the Therminol FR series heat transfer fluids which contain PCBs to consider a change to a non-PCB containing Therminol such as Therminol 55, 66 or 77. While these are not classified as fire resistant fluids, proper design, operation and maintenance and the use of appropriate protective devices would minimize any added fire risk.

I have attached technical data on Therminol 55, 66 and 77 fluids. For your specific application, I suggest Therminol 66 as a possible replacement for the Therminol FR fluid now in your system. We encourage your consideration of a change from Therminol FR fluid to Therminol 66 at this time, as long term availability is uncertain. We would be happy to discuss details of disposal of Therminol FR fluid and application of the Therminol 66 fluid.

Please feel free to contact either Carl Clay, our Therminol representative in Atlanta, or me in St. Louis. Carl Clay's Atlanta address is 320 Interstate N. Parkway, Suite 500, Atlanta, Ga. (404) 432-7111.

Very truly yours,

D. E. Roush
Product Specialist
Heat Transfer Fluids

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Enclosures