

March 22, 1971

Mr. Stanley D. Silsby
65 South Street
Granby, Mass. 01033

Dear Mr. Silsby:

Your letter concerning the mercury content of Lucite® House Paint has been sent to me for reply.

As with most paint manufacturers, Du Pont adds a small quantity of organic mercury compounds (not alkyl mercurials) to Lucite® paints to protect them from bacterial and fungal attack. A preservative of this type is necessary to insure that the consumer receives a quality product which will perform to his expectations.

Our current J10-Line of Lucite® Outside House Paints contains 0.03% mercury based on solids. This level is below the maximum of 0.04% mercury allowed in paints to be used on children's toys and interior surfaces, as described in the American Standards Association Regulation Z44.1-1964.

The amount of mercury which could reach your wall from the paint film is extremely small and would present no health hazard. The reasons for this are (1) the small amount of mercury originally present in the paint film, and (2) the extremely low rate at which the mercury is leached from the paint by rainwater.

We appreciate your concern and trust this information will be sufficient to answer your questions.

Very truly yours,

William W. Miller
Pollution Control Coordinator

WWM:lbw

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