



Charles Ryan Associates, Inc.

1510 Kanawha Boulevard, East
P.O. Box 2464
Charleston, West Virginia 25329
Phone 304/342-0161

TO: ROYCE SCOTT, PLANT MANAGER, MONSANTO, NITRO
PIERRE WILKINS, DIRECTOR, CREATIVE SERVICES

FROM: CHARLES E. RYAN

DATE: JULY 26, 1979

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS (AND SUGGESTED ANSWERS) FROM JOHN MCCOY ON THE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL ISSUE

1. HOW IS MONSANTO CURRENTLY DISPOSING OF ITS SOLID WASTE?

Answer We collect our solid waste from locations around the plant and move it by vehicle to the landfill site north of our facility, within our plant boundary lines. This landfill is operated under strict regulations and is inspected on a regular basis by the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources.

2. IS IT POSSIBLE THAT ANY OF THIS MATERIAL MIGHT LEACH INTO THE WATER TABLE AND THE KANAWHA RIVER?

Answer We have a series of perimeter and cross-crossing wells drilled through the fill layer, trash layer and a clay liner into the water table. We take samples from those wells and analyze them on a regular basis. These samples indicate we're not leaching any material into the water table.

3. (IN CASE A QUESTION IS ASKED ON WATER)

Answer The plant has only two outfalls. One comes from the water treatment plant where all our liquid runoff is treated before being released. This outfall is monitored and the process we use in treating the water has been used as an example of how to operate such a plant by the EPA.

(Royce, I'm pretty sure you said EPA used it as an example, correct me if I'm wrong)

The second outfall is from a non-contact cooling

PUBLIC RELATIONS • ADVERTISING • COMPANY PUBLICATIONS • BROCHURES
TELEVISION, VIDEOTAPE AND FILM PRODUCTIONS

C07517

CONFIDENTIAL

water system. It has no contact with our chemical process in the plant but it too is sampled coming in and before leaving the plant.

By Not really
true. we know
what but only
how much roughly

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PUTTING INTO THIS DUMP SITE?

Answer We keep an inventory list of all items that are disposed of in the landfill.

5. WHAT KIND OF STUFF ARE YOU DUMPING?

Trash (paper, wood, cloth, etc.)
and one for residue.

Answer Well, for example, Building 8 generates 6,000 pounds, a week, of certain items, such as paper and wood.

6. WHAT ABOUT THESE DRUMS I SEE HERE, WHAT KIND OF MATERIAL DO THEY CONTAIN?

Answer These drums and any drums at the landfill site contain trash to be emptied. No drums of liquid material are brought to the landfill.

7. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE HIGHLY TOXIC WASTE?

Answer All highly toxic wastes are incinerated. This is the best way to handle them because they are clean burners and we can best dispose of them by burning.

8. HAVE YOU REPLIED TO CONGRESSMAN BECKHARDT'S REQUEST THAT YOU SUPPLY HIM WITH INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR OLD LANDFILL SITES AND WHAT DID YOU TELL HIM?

Answer We have replied to Congressman Beckhardt in some detail. However, we consider that material to be confidential in nature until such time as his committee releases the material or the committee acts.

9. WHAT ABOUT THE SITES YOU HAVE USED. HAVE THEY ALWAYS BEEN WITHIN THE PLANT OR HAVE YOU USED SITES OUTSIDE THE PLANT?

Answer I can tell you that since I have been with Monsanto in Nitro, we have only used in-plant sites.

10. WHAT ABOUT BEFORE THE TIME YOU CAME WITH MONSANTO IN NITRO?

Answer Twenty years or so ago, there was, I understand, some off-site dumping. Again, we are into the

C07518

CONFIDENTIAL

confidential areas of the Eckhardt report and I simply can't violate that confidentiality.

11. IS THERE ANY REASON TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THOSE AREAS?

Answer Insofar as we know, there was nothing done in the past that would affect the public.

245T disposal
PAB disposal?

12. WHAT ABOUT THE TOXIC DIOXIN HERE AT MONSANTO?

Answer First, it should be clearly understood that the Nitro plant stopped manufacturing dioxin ~~of~~ 245-T in 1969 and the plant does not currently manufacture any chemicals which produce trace amounts of any unwanted contaminants in the dioxin family.

* Dioxin was a trace
contaminant in the 245T
process.

13. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MONSANTO BURIED THAT DIOXIN EQUIPMENT HERE AT THE PLANT?

Answer When we dismantled the equipment in the early '70's, we decontaminated it and buried it here on the site. We monitor the containment of all solid waste buried at Nitro through a series of wells around the plant and throughout the solid waste disposal area...that way we can ensure that the waste is being contained.

14. HOW DID YOU DISPOSE OF THE 245-T WHILE THE UNIT WAS OPERATING?

Answer There was no solid waste from the manufacture of 245-T. We did have filter clothes, dust bags and floor sweepings. These were burned in the plant incinerator. That was an acceptable and standard procedure at that time.

15. WHAT DID YOU LEARN WHEN YOU ANSWERED THE QUESTIONS CONGRESSMAN ECKHARDT HAD?

Answer We learned nothing from the questions Congressman Eckhardt had, we were simply asked to reply to his questions.

(This is a question that McCoy told Fred Winterkamp he was going to ask but he did not ask the question)

16. ARE YOU FEARFUL THAT THERE MAY BE A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION FROM "DUMPING" THAT TOOK PLACE BEFORE YOU CAME TO NITRO?

Answer Again, insofar as we know, there was nothing done in the past that would affect the public.

CONFIDENTIAL

C07519

17. WHEN DO YOU EXPECT THE ECKHARDT REPORT TO BE MADE PUBLIC OR HIS COMMITTEE TO ACT?

Answer We have had no indication that the report is to be made public nor have we had any indication that any action would be merited.

CONFIDENTIAL

007520

ISSUES

1. Is the Nitro plant a safe place?
2. Are alleged health effects from trichlorophenol and PAB different from earlier findings?
3. Are allegations from employees and others about earlier secretive dumpings/disposal of contaminated trichlorophenol on Nitro property valid? If so, is that of material concern today?
4. Is there a continuing exposure of significance to dioxins or other compounds in the Nitro plant today? In the community today?

M. C. Throdahl
6/15/79

CONFIDENTIAL

C07522