



INTER-COMPANY AND OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: D. L. Young

FROM: *S. P. Graham*

{ Dept.
Branch
Division
Company

LOCATED AT: Leominster, Mass.

SUBJECT: Recent Incinerator Stack
Discharge Readings

DATE: March 4, 1983

I have been unable to find any problem with G.C. #4 that would have resulted in an invalid reading on February 17, 1983. The Gas Chromatograph and the accompanying sample system are in proper working order and do not appear to be giving inaccurately high readings.

Initially, when possible invalid readings appeared in early January, 1983, I checked into the system to make sure it was functioning properly. These readings were suspected to be invalid because the waste water stripper and the incinerator stack discharge would print out at the same time. This would especially occur when the waste water stripper went onto city water. The system was checked in the following way during the end part of January. I plugged off the monitoring line that leads to the incinerator stack discharge at a point where it ties into a KO pot on the roof level. The sample pump pulled the plugged-off line into a vacuum and held it there indicating the line was free from any breakage. The presence of condensate in the KO pot proves that the line from there to inside the stack is not plugged. Next, a large sample bag was filled with 500ppm Vinyl Chloride and attached to the point where I previously plugged it off. Within a matter of 5 to 10 minutes, the bag had been drawn down and into a slight vacuum. The terminal printed out alarms on stream 4-4 (Incinerator Stack Discharge) in the area of 320ppm's and then tailed off. A bag sample was used on the other two points (Waste Water Stripper and Process Point) with similar results. There was no carryover to the other streams and each point behaved much as it should have.

The G.C. calibrates once per shift and the calibrations have been very consistent over the past few months.

The Electricians recently (early February) cleaned and inspected the solenoids for the stream samplers. All aspects of the system appear to be in good working order. Other possibilities of explaining this emission may require closer examination.

Stephen P. Graham
S. P. Graham

EPA Coordinator

SPG/kml

cc: A. C. Mendelsohn / J. J. Tocci / M. R. Thorsen

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