

PRESS QUERY

COMPANY (OpUnit or Corporate): MIC

SUBJECT: Crude Orthochlorophenol

REPORTER & MEDIA: Chris Conway - Columbia
Missouri Tribune (314) 449-3811

TIME & DATE: 2:50 p.m., Feb. 23, 1979

QUESTION & RESPONSE:

Q. Will you send copy of the Material Safety Data Sheet that the railroads carry on OCP?

A. Railroads don't carry these sheets. This is information we sent to OSHA. We also supply information on our products to CHEMTREC which is a clearing house for information in the event of a spill. (Sent him Material Safety Data Sheet.)

Q. OCP abstract number?

A. 95-57-8

☒ News Bureau
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☒ E. H. Harbison
☒ J. C. McPhillips
☒ J. S. Metcalf
☒ H. W. Tippee

Reporter stated he's not working on story, but trying to get background for next EPA news release. Reporter says he gets complete run around between EPA headquarters and Region VII.

Initiated call to John Frank, Columbia Missourian, at 3:10 p.m., Feb. 23, 1979, who had earlier asked about worker health at our OCP unit. I stated...

"We have seen no adverse health problems among our OCP workers. We began producing OCP in about 1937 or 1938. At this Illinois manufacturing site we have a medical surveillance program which includes pre-employment and annual physicals for all workers. Each physical includes appropriate tests which help indicate potential health problems that could be produced from chemical exposure. If there was a health problem among OCP workers, it would have been detected through the medical surveillance program.

No one is too sure of the long term health affects of TCDD exposure. Most people agree that the first clinical sign of TCDD exposure to large doses is chloracne. To the best of our knowledge no worker in our OCP unit has ever contracted chloracne. And, that goes back to the beginning of production."

Reporter stated he had asked Harry Gilmer, EPA on-site coordinator, earlier in the week to gather our workers' health records as a way of seeing if the Sturgeon residents had any long term threat to health. He also stated that Western Environmental Services was gone from Sturgeon and all the barrels and trucks were gone.

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Joe Metcalf received a telephone call on February 23, 1979, from EPA saying their independent analysis of our reserve product sample had found TCDD at an average level of .017 ppm.

SOURCE OF ANSWER: J. S. Metcalf
H. W. Tippee

HANDLED BY: R. C. Isham