

review

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A Newsletter for Vinyl Institute Participants

June 1993

Industry Group Testifies Before the IJC...On June 16, an industry group testified before the International Joint Commission in Ottawa, Canada on the proposal to "sunset" chlorine products, including PVC, in the Great Lakes Basin. Mike Marshall of the Geon Company and Bob Burnett took the opportunity to review cooperative efforts with the IJC and stress the importance of the industry to the economy of the area. (Contact: Bob Burnett)

VI Executive Director Addresses Group in Canada...Bob Burnett was again invited to Canada (see May ReView) only this time to address potential members of the Vinyl Council in Montreal. Fred Krause of the Geon Company was present and assisted with the discussion which included a review of the Plastibec PVC fire the day before in St. Therese. (Contact: Bob Burnett)

The Issues Management Committee had their first official meeting in Washington, D.C. on June 22nd. Fred Krause of the Geon Company chaired the meeting which was intended to identify and prioritize key issues facing the industry at this time. (Contact: Bob Burnett)

About Very Important People...Brian Bourgeois of PPG Industries has joined the Vinyl Institute Executive Board, succeeding Donna Magill, who has assumed new duties at PPG. George Dillon of Dow Chemical Company has also joined the VI Executive Board and is replacing Brad Lienhart who has joined the Chlorine Coordinating Council in Washington, D.C.

VERCE Hotline Sets New Record...In the month of May VERCE handled 384 calls, setting a new record. Although most of the requests were for the new Directory of Companies Manufacturing Products From Recycled Vinyl, other requests were for the Environmental Fact Kit, RFP (tool pool) information, as well as numerous requests for vinyl recycling contacts and vinyl scrap sources.

Comments Filed on New Jersey Right-To-Know Proposal...The Vinyl Institute filed comments on June 18 with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy on proposed amendments to the state's Worker and Community Right-To-Know regulations. The VI comments strongly opposed the designation of PVC as an "unusually hazardous substance" on an "Environmental Hazardous Substance List" as included in the proposed rulemaking. The VI comments supplemented those filed separately by VI member companies with New Jersey-based facilities. (Contact: Meredith Scheck)

PVC Ban Bill Laid Aside in North Carolina...Hearings before the North Carolina Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources on SB52, a bill to prohibit the distribution, sale and the offering for sale of plastic containers made with PVC, were canceled June 10 due to the unavailability of Senator Fountain Odom, the bill's sponsor. Legislative activity is being coordinated by Rudy Underwood, Southeast Government Affairs Manager of the American Plastics Council. (Contact: Meredith Scheck)

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Use of Heavy Metals in Plastics Products Examined...The Source Reduction Task Force of the Council of Northeast Governors (CONEG) discussed at its June 3 meeting the use of lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium in plastic products and consideration of a proposal to ban their use. An initial meetings of the SPI Product Regulation Task Force of the Occupational Health and Environmental Issues Committee and representatives of the American Plastics Council's state government affairs staff was held June 29 to begin the process of gathering the appropriate technical information on the use of these materials in the plastics industry. Members of the VI Technical Committee have provided input to that process. CONEG's Source Reduction Task Force is scheduled to next meet in September. (Contact: Meredith Scheck)

Upcoming Events...include the following meetings being held in Washington, D.C. - Issues Management Committee meeting on August 31st, VIGOR meeting on September 1st, Executive Committee and Executive Board meetings on September 7th and 8th respectively. Also, the next meeting of the Technical Committee will be held on September 23rd at the Newark Airport Hilton. (Contact: Pat Benkner)

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