



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
THE ALASKA RAILROAD

P. O. BOX 7-2111
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

R. O. K.
E. W. M.
MAY 25 1961
G. W. W.
E. H. L.
E. L. G.

May 23, 1961

E. I. DuPont
Electro Chemical Department
Wilmington, Delaware

Gentlemen:

The Alaska Railroad is converting several surplus railroad tank cars into bulk liquid containers for use in the transportation of molasses, peanut oil, et cetera, between the West Coast and Alaska, the commodities to be used in making cattle feed.

The information we would like to have is: If these tanks are re-built and completely shot blast inside to remove all scale down to the raw metal, if there would be a possibility of the tanks being contaminated by the tetraethyl lead that is present in the gas products which were handled previously in these cars? Is there any type of chemical that could be used in cleaning these cars which would remove any trace of contamination? Also, if there is a plastic liner or paint of some kind that could be applied to the side of these tanks which would completely seal the metal so that the products handled would not come into contact with it.

The volume of the tanks will be 6,000 gallons and we are wondering what reaction this would have on the livestock when this size of volume is handled if there is a slight trace of tetraethyl left in the tanks.

Any information you can give us will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

D. L. Allen

D. L. Allen
Assistant General Traffic Manager

6/30-enclosed to Grace & Sons