

Interoffice Communication

To John McCulley
From Tom Grumbles
Date March 18, 1981
Subject UPDATE ON PVC DUST EXPOSURES

Air sampling surveys to evaluate personnel exposures to airborne PVC dust have been completed at Aberdeen and Oklahoma City. Under normal operating conditions even the highest measured exposure (1.4 mg/m^3) was well within the TLV of 5 mg/m^3 for respirable dust and 10 mg/m^3 for total dust. A potential for high dust exposures does exist during dust collector sock change outs. However, this is a short term exposure and respiratory protection is required for this particular job as well as others with a similar exposure potential.

It appears that OSHA has not taken any further action on PVC dust. With the new administration and OSHA cutbacks we probably will not see any future efforts to develop a PVC dust exposure standard.

Based on the results of the plant surveys, current plant dust emission controls are adequate to maintain employee exposures well below current permissible limits. If you would like more details on the dust exposure studies please feel free to call.

Thomas G. Grumbles

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cc John Friend
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