

July 25, 1956

Dr. Roy L. A. Beck
Ethyl Corporation
P.O. Box 341
Baton Rouge 1, Louisiana

Dear Doctor Beck:

Receipt of the memo of July 17 from Mr. Lester to you is acknowledged with only brief comments at this time. Other recommendations will follow if and when they can be made usefully and realistically.

We have been aware of the developments in the Detroit Laboratories in relation to the production of the compound designated in the memo as AP-3 (formerly designated as APR-128). We discussed some of the practical possibilities for hazard with the Detroit group on July 18th, at which time a tentative plan, since scheduled for being carried out during the week of July 30th, was made to have members of the staff of the Kettering Laboratory visit the Detroit Laboratories and observe the procedures involved in the production of AP-3 on a laboratory scale so as to be prepared to consider the nature of the hazards associated with the process. This was thought to be a wise preliminary step in the design of experiments for further investigation of AP-3, and also a practical means of anticipating the hazards of the operation which is being transferred from Detroit to Orangeburg.

It is believed that the representatives of the Detroit Laboratory who will work directly with Orangeburg will be able to anticipate and prevent serious difficulties in the Orangeburg plant. It is also believed that a representative of the Medical Department of Ethyl Corporation should observe the process at Orangeburg at some early date. Arrangement will be made for this through Dr. Fitzmiller.

The main activity in the Kettering Laboratory will consist in, (1) an investigation of the effects of the exposure of animals to a low concentration of AP-3 in the atmosphere over a period of six or more months, and (2) an investigation of the absorption, if any, of the material through the skin out of such a diluent as gasoline. These observations are designed to bring forth criteria for the safe handling of the compound in the manufacture and in the intermediate stages of its use in a fuel.

Until valid toxicological information has been obtained, AP-3, in all of its forms, solutions and mixtures, is to be regarded as a highly

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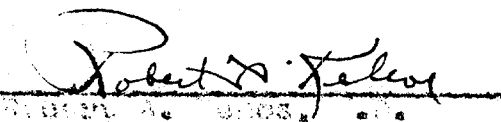
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dangerous substance, to which man must not be exposed by inhalation and skin contact.

Other materials which are to be dealt with as raw materials and solvents and solvents, in the manufacture and intermediate handling of AP-3, are to be regarded as potentially dangerous and are to be handled with care against inhalation and skin contact, as a means of ensuring that no combination or mixture or solution of them containing any concentration of AP-3 will be regarded as innocuous.

As a further word of advice, all persons who are in positions of any responsibility for the safety of personnel are warned again, that the information in the "Handbook of Dangerous Materials," by Max, is often unreliable, and that the measures of safety advised are often incomplete and inept. This book is not to be accepted as a basis for action until and unless the specific information provided therein has been checked by the Medical Department of the Corporation.

Sincerely yours,


Robert D. Felton
General Manager, A. C. S. Co.

Encl: 1

cc - Mr. C. D. Liggett
Mr. C. D. Bergeys
Mr. C. D. Center
Mr. C. D. Taylor

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