



Mr. C. R. Hoffman
Battery Products Division
P. O. Box 400
Bennington, Vermont 05201

October 7, 1975

Medical Department
4th Floor

Mr. R. Christie/Mr. T. Burke
Mr. H. M. Holcombe
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Dr. J. J. Welsh/Dr. K. S. Lane

Industrial Hygiene Survey -
Bennington Plant, Aug. 26-27, 1975

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

An industrial hygiene visit was made at Bennington on August 26-27, 1975.

Samples of the personnel type were taken in the mercury and silver oxide mix rooms. Only pelletizing was covered in the mercury room and 0.06 mg/M³ of mercury were obtained. Four samples in the silver room taken on two different days indicated 0.12 and 0.07 mg/M³ for first day and 0.03 and 0.01 mg/M³ the second day. While improvement is shown in both areas, the levels are still above the suggested threshold limit values.

It is understood that these mix rooms may be relocated in the future and it is felt that a thorough study of exhaust control should be made so that in a new location these areas may be brought under control.

The use of d-limonene as an inspection media for ampoules was discussed and inspected. Although this material is not regarded as toxic, it can be irritating to some people.

It was not possible to recheck vinyl chloride levels at band extrusion or mold machine operations since these were all down for various reasons. It is expected that these will be checked later this month.

The over-all program of noise reduction is making progress, especially in the punch press area in Plant 2 where the enclosures reduce noise levels substantially.

Other areas were inspected and the program of surveillance was discussed with Mr. Bylina and others.

Very truly yours,

LJL/eg

Leo J. LaFrance
Industrial Hygienist

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