a.b.
r.h. RH
n.k. NK

August 3, 1979



PLANT VISIT
July 24 and 25, 1979
FFD - Winchester

Mr. L. F. Keenan
Vice President Mfg.
FFD - Winchester

Thank you for the many courtesies shown to Nick Kavalaras and myself on the occasion of our recent visit to your plant. It was a very enjoyable and highly productive session.

I emphasized to all concerned that FFD-Winchester was far behind in the required pulmonary function testing and survey physical examinations. As a matter of fact, no pulmonary function tests or survey physicals have been performed in 1979. It is required by law that a physical examination, pulmonary function test, and chest x-ray be performed every two years, and a pulmonary function test and chest x-ray be performed annually.

The Winchester plant employs more people than any other plant in all of Abex, and it is a physical impossibility for one nurse to tend to the daily first aid, supervise worker's compensation, perform pulmonary function testing, and keep records on this many employees. It was my recommendation that a second nurse be employed and that both nurses be trained and certified in pulmonary function testing and audiometric testing to facilitate catching up and remaining current in the examinations required by law.

It is a further requirement of OSHA that two currently trained and certified First Aid persons be present on each shift. It was my suggestion that Beverly McConnaughey, R.N. be trained and certified as an accredited First Aid instructor to enable in-house training of other First Aid personnel.

I further noted that the number of non-industrial cases reported on an annual basis were far fewer than the number reported in much smaller plants. This was found to be due to the fact that there was no time to record all such cases. All medications of any nature must be dispensed only by the


ABEX-199

SPIM 1575

SCF-ABEX-2280

nurse or in her absence, by a qualified First Aid person and a record kept of each and every such case. No medications or supplies should be made available to employees generally. All such supplies should be kept in a locked container and only qualified First Aid persons should have a key to it. Any minor medications dispensed in the nurse's absence should be properly recorded by the responsible First Aid individual.

It was noted that there was no oxygen dispensing equipment in the nurse's station at present and we advised that such be obtained as soon as possible.

It is the considered opinion of Nick Kavelaras and myself that in a plant that employs such a large number of employees, a full time Safety Director would very shortly not only save enough money to pay his own salary, but to save at least 2-3 times his salary through a reduction in accidents.

In order to facilitate catching up on the pulmonary function testing, it was my suggestion that Beverly McConnaughey, R.N. be certified in both pulmonary function testing and audiometric testing as soon as possible. If training in the pulmonary function testing is not available locally, it can be obtained here in Chicago very readily.

It was conveyed to me that the plant physician at the present has developed a rather lackadaisical attitude and I attempted to aid in the correction of this by having an interview with the hospital administrator. However, the only name submitted to me was not acceptable to those in the plant who knew of his work. Another physician had been contacted but he was not interested. It was decided to continue with the present plant physician but any time an alternative presents itself, I will be glad to help in any way I can.

It was certainly a pleasure for Nick and myself to be afforded the opportunity to speak to the supervisors of all three shifts concerning safety and health.

Thank you again for your many kindnesses, and please let us know how we may be of any help in the future.

F. W. Knoch, M.D.
Medical Director

FWK:np
cc: R. Iwarsson
E. F. Petta
R. W. Wells
B. McConnaughey, R.N.
D. K. Rennie

SPIM 1576