

FILE NAME: General Electric (GE)

DATE: 1949 May 13

DOC#: GE042

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter from GE to the Saranac Laboratory

LAMP DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ELECTRIC
COMPANY



ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

NELA PARK
CLEVELAND 12, OHIO

May 13, 1949

Dr. A. J. Vorwald
The Saranac Laboratory
Saranac Lake, New York

Dear Dr. Vorwald:

The incandescent lamp with the Q-coating seems destined to assume an important part in our lamp-making program, so we are getting pretty anxious to have some information on the possible toxicity of the powder used in it.

It is now six months since you received our "go ahead", and our information is that no tests have been started as yet. This is very disappointing to us, although we realize that we must assume part of the responsibility for this delay - due to our inability to obtain certain ESSENTIAL equipment. But we feel that some of the items you have requested are really not essential, albeit they would be nice to have and probably would make the job easier. As an example, we seem to be in disagreement as to just how essential it is to have a burner-cleaner. We here do not think it necessary and, furthermore, it will be a major job to design and build such a machine, so we wish you could see clear to go ahead without it.

After Mr. Bartlett's visit to Saranac, we thought you would soon be starting tests, but since then we have had only additional requests for equipment, etc., and apparently little progress toward actually starting tests has been made in the past two and a half months.

But perhaps we are placing too much stress on the equipment angle. The delay may be a personnel problem, wherein the man assigned to the tests may be held up because of the priority or urgency of other assignments. We suspect this because he has been sending to us, for processing on our electron microscope, samples of silica and glass which, by no stretch of the imagination, can we tie in with our Q-coating investigations. If we are mistaken, we shall be glad to service these samples as part of our mutual program. By the same token, we shall be glad to service any samples which have a direct bearing on the Q-coating investigation.

Maybe our anxiety has made us impatient, but we feel that we just must get some information before long, and we solicit your personal efforts to "get things rolling".

Yours very truly,

Dale C. Hughes

DALE C. HUGHES

DCH:WMR

WJ Bartlett