

The Society of the
Plastics Industry, Inc.



355 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) 573 9400

March 10, 1978

TO: THE PVC SAFETY GROUP

Gentlemen:

Please note as indicated in the Minutes of the PVC Steering and Communications Committees, it is planned that the PVC Safety Group will take part in the EPA meeting scheduled for March 23 at the EPA offices, Waterside Mall, 410 M. Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. Room 3906 at 8:30 A.M.

It would be advisable to have a representative from your company attend this meeting if at all possible. You can expect that a draft of the presentation material will be sent to your attention about March 20.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. Lawrence".

John R. Lawrence
Technical Director

JRL:gm

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H. A. ROSENZWEIG

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PVC SAFETY GROUP

STEERING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 28, 1978
8:30 A. M.

Sheraton Hopkins Hotel
Cleveland, OHIO

SUMMARY:

- 1 - PVC Safety Group has been designated by The American Industrial Health Council (AIHC) to represent them at the EPA meeting to review its carcinogen policy on March 23. PVC Safety Group members are urged to be present.
- 2 - Nominating Committee recommends present officers of Steering Committee to serve for a second year.
- 3 - The next meeting of the full PVC Safety Group is March 31, 1978 in Arlington, Virginia.

ATTENDEES:

D. C. Nuechterlein - CHAIRMAN - Dow Chemical USA, 2020 Dow Center, Midland, Mi 48640
E. G. Ackerman - Diamond Shamrock Corp., 1100 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114
A. Ross Adams - Air Products & Chemicals, 400 Orchid Circle, Emmaus, Pa 18049
Gary H. Baise - Beveridge, Fairbanks & Diamond, One Farragut Square South, Wash. D.C.
J. T. Barr - Air Products & Chemicals, Box 538, Allentown, Pa 18105
R. W. Fortenbach - Shell Chemical Co., One Shell Plaza, Houston, Texas 77001
Ralph L. Harding - SPI - 355 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017
Francis Hor - Firestone Plastics Co., P. O. Box 699, Pottstown, Pa 19464
Jack Jaglom - The Pantasote Co., of N.Y. 26 Jefferson Street, Passiac, NJ 07055
R. W. Laundrie - General Tire & Rubber Co., One General Street, Akron, Ohio 44329
John R. Lawrence - SPI - 355 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017
William Rupp - Tenneco Chemicals, P. O. Box 365, Piscataway, NJ 08854
Dick Savage - B. F. Goodrich Chemical Div., 6100 Oak Tree Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44131
Steve Schaefer - Diamond Shamrock Corp., 1100 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Don K. Spencer - Shell Chemical Co., One Shell Plaza, Houston, Texas 77001
Dale W. Sullivan - Ethyl Corp., 451 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, La 70801
Todd Walker - Firestone Plastics Co., Firestone Blvd., Pottstown, Pa 19464
Professor Richard Wilson - Harvard University.

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- 1 - Chairman Nuechterlein opened the meeting by calling on Messrs. Schaefer and Barr to review the results of the meeting held with the AIHC Steering Committee relative to the review of EPA's carcinogen policy. The conclusion of this meeting was that AIHC wishes the PVC Safety Group to act for AIHC at the EPA hearing scheduled for March 23. In doing this, AIHC would make available any of their background preparations that have been made for the chemical industry's response to the OSHA Generic Carcinogen proposals.

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3 - Risk-Benefit Concepts

Professor Richard Wilson of Harvard University was introduced by Dr. Adams. He gave a brief statement on his risk-benefit concept as related to vinyl chloride and other carcinogen risks.

He pointed out that because it breaks down in the atmosphere rapidly that the concern should be the primary contact (i.e., exposure in the workplace). On the basis of EPA's 1976 regulation, the risk projects to perhaps one case in 20 years.

Several references were made to Professor Wilson's position papers on this subject:

- . Risk-Benefit Analysis for Vinyl Chloride
(ACS Meeting, September 1, 1976)
- . Magnitude of the Chemical Cancer Problem:
A Review of Some Opinions and Numbers.

NOTE: Copies of these papers can be obtained from John Lawrence at the SPI office.

4 - Committee Reports

- (a) PVC Fire Safety Committee - Mr. Dan Kent reviewed the activities of the committee making specific reference to the minutes of the January 5 meeting. He also called attention to the toxicity studies proposed to be conducted at the University of Michigan on off gases from burning materials.

The Steering Committee recommended that PAC be urgently requested to support this study because it involves all types of plastics.

- (b) Financial Report - Mr. Walker distributed the report on expenses through December 1977. (Attachment B). It was also indicated that approximately 50% of the January assessment of \$400,000 has been received.

In response to a request by the Chairman, Mr. Walker indicated that a budget projection will be prepared for the full Committee to review at the March 31 meeting.

- (c) Communications Committee - On behalf of this committee Mr. Ackerman reported that activities have been at a low level pending EPA's action on the proposed VC amendments. It was agreed that the Communications Committee should be ready to provide appropriate backup to the Group's participation at the EPA meeting on March 23.

A summary of Hill & Knowlton's activities for the month of January on behalf of the Group is enclosed. (Attachment C).

Nominating Committee - Dr. Adams reported that the Nominating committee recommends that Messrs. Nuechterlein, Schaefer and Walker be re-nominated to their present offices and that their respective companies be nominated to the Steering Committee for a three year term. It was agreed that these nominations should be directed to the attention of the full PVC Safety Group for action at the March 31 meeting.

Health Committee - Mr. Nuechterlein reported on behalf of Dr. Torkelson that the Health committee was still searching out an organization maintaining complete records on VC health studies and related information. It was urged that one of the several organizations under consideration be retained for a trial period of 6-12 months.

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- 6 - The next meeting of the Steering Committee will take place at 8:00 a.m. just prior to the meeting of the full committee on Friday, March 31, 1978.
- 7 - The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

John R. Lawrence

John R. Lawrence
Technical Director

ATTACHMENTS
3/8/78

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