THIS COPY FOR: T. D. Bonney - Pittsburgh

FROM E. B. Parker
Rockdale Works

TO Mr. D. D. McGregor
Rockdale Works

December 3, 1974

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
AL-2436

MONTHLY LETTER - ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
NOVEMBER, 1974

Safety and Industrial Hygiene

Year to date safety statistics at the end of November were as follows:

Frequency	2.83
Severity	.26
Sum	3.09

During November we experienced 83 Company injuries including 4 serious injuries.

The monthly meetings with the Mechanical Maintenance Department were held on November 4 and 5, 1974. Messrs. Glenn Brown with the Linde Division of Union Carbide and Sewell Street with Wilson Oxygen presented an excellent program on compressed gas safety.

On November 6, 1974, the Central Texas Red Cross Bloodmobile visited the Plant collecting 175 units. Twenty-five of the donors were first-time donors.

A Red Cross Multimedia First Aid Training Class was held at the Plant on November 20. Twelve employees successfully completed this course which was conducted by Mr. W. E. Korenek of Environmental Engineering.

A Red Cross Multimedia First Aid Training Course was conducted for members of the Rockdale Volunteer Fire Department by Mr. Ray Kuchera (Atomizer) and Mr. H. N. Mueller. Seven firemen received first aid cards as a result of this session.

Four employees were enrolled in the Wise Owl Club during the month: Messrs. Don Rash, Control; Albert Cephas, Potrooms; Aaron Britton, Potrooms and Dennis Mikulencak, Potrooms.

A total of twenty-three employees successfully completed the Vehicle Operator Training Course during the month. As of November 26, 434 employees including 79 foremen have completed the course.

At Dr. M. F. Jones' suggestion, those participants in the semi-annual urinary fluoride surveys whose pre-shift results had been high in the last few surveys were asked to give additional samples. Results of this work were unavailable at this writing.

ALCOA

Government Agency Contacts

Discussions with EPA about Rockdale's NPDES permit resolved all major points about the proposed permit except the definition of the sampling point. The permit will specify that sampling be done at a point prior to the comingling of our discharge with East Yegua Creek. The compliance strategy developed with the Texas Water Quality Board involves construction of a settling basin on East Yegua Creek itself before creek water leaves our property. It appears as though the matter will require an adjudicatory hearing.

A permit was received from the Texas Air Control Board authorizing the construction of the new carbon cleaning machines associated with the Carbon Plant Modernization project.

A letter was sent to the Texas Air Control Board requesting SO_2 and NO_x data which they have obtained while evaluating various monitoring instruments using the IGC boiler stacks as a source.

An Industrial Cost Questionnaire reflecting an estimate of the money required to meet the 1983 National goal of best available treatment for industrial waste dischargers was submitted to the Texas Water Quality Board.

Environmental Control Activity

Only one Alcoa 398 unit underwent a complete bag change in November because of a continuing bag shortage. Rockdale and Pittsburgh people are working to alleviate this situation.

Representatives of Baldwin Electronics visited Rockdale to demonstrate an instrument to continuously monitor stack opacity. The instrument has several novel features including a continuously moving optical window made of a clear tape material and a fiber optical system which provides a true ratio of light crossing a stack to source light. There are no instruments in service as yet, however, so comments from customers are not available.

Continued efforts to obtain design load on No. 2 generator at IGC (the first unit on stream with its new electrostatic precipitator) indicated that high pressure drops in some of the contorted retrofitted ductwork was reducing air flow and consequently generating capacity. Koppers and Alcoa engineers continued to work on corrective measures.

Check-out of the Alcoa 446 system continued. Filling of Unit 2 and final instrumentation checks on Units 2 and 3 remained to be done in Courtyard 60 at month's end. The tie-in between existing and new duct-work was made December 1.

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Results of water samples taken at Outfall 002 (Yegua Creek) were within the limits of the Texas Water Quality Board permit.

Ambient levels of fluoride were determined at our property line and found to be quite low.

Conditions Requiring Attention

Generation of nuisance dust during ore unloading

No activity

High fluoride in run-off water from spent potlining storage pile.

The location of the dike around the new waste disposal site was staked out. Samples of several plastic lining materials were requested.

High levels of asbestos dust during Marinite sawing.

Arrangements have been made to have all Marinite sawing done in outside shops.

Evaluation of ceramic Properzi spouts continued and looked favorable. Upon successful completion of the evaluation, spouts will be made at Rockdale.

An experiment involving the use of Johns-Manville Kaowool as a substitute for Marinite insulation in Alcoa 469 unit covers gave encouraging results. Additional covers were being converted to Kaowool at month's end.

High dust emissions from the Lignite Crushing Area.

Installation of the new rotoclone was completed and the unit was placed in service. It appeared that the water supply was inadequate, so a larger water line will be installed.

Excessive dust emissions from the upper levels of Bldg. 54.

Ductwork revisions were completed and tie-in was made to the Carbon Plant precipitator system. Project completion awaits the delivery of a new larger fan for the CC62 dust collector.

Coal tar pitch volatiles

No activity

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High dust levels in the Carbon Plant butt mill area

Design of experimental ductwork for the mill was completed and materials were ordered.

Solid waste disposal

Forms for registration of Rockdale's solid waste disposal sites were essentially completed. Sites included are 1) general plant waste disposal pit; 2) new Class 1 waste disposal site; 3) power plant ash lake; 4) Venturi scrubber waste pond (A-Pit ramp); 5) Potroom sludge lagoons.

Replacement of Lignite Dryer Venturi Scrubbers

The test coupon of FRP material will be examined in early December and a final decision regarding its serviceability as a scrubber vessel material will be made.

General

Messrs. Victor Bouldin and Bill Butler, attorneys with Vinson, Elkins, Searls, Connally and Smith, visited Rockdale to review the Water Rights Commission aspects of the new settling basin on Yegua Creek.

A Workshop on Pollution Effects on Vegetation was held at Texas A and M University and attended by Mr. A. G. Clayton from Rockdale.

E. B. Parker

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