



DOW CHEMICAL U.S.A.

1603 Building
September 13, 1979

MIDLAND, MICHIGAN 48640

Mr. John Lawrence
Technical Director, SPI
355 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10017

REC-10
SEP 17 1979
R. N. WHEELER JR.

cc: T. J. Benya, Ethyl
M. N. Johnson, M.D., BFG
R. N. Wheeler, UCC
W. M. Smith, AP&C
D. Kent, BFG

At our meeting on September 11, 1979 in Washington, I was requested to prepare a draft of a letter that could be sent to Dr. W. A. Crosbie and have done so. A copy is attached. If the subcommittee has comments they should get them to you immediately since you indicated you would like to send it to Dr. Crosbie next week.

In regard to the other items discussed at the meeting, we definitely need to determine the status of the CPSC publication. What stage is it at and where and when will it be published. I will determine if AIHC has prepared comments. Although we tabled action on PVC inhalation studies, the CMA group is discussing the possibility of examining PVC dust exposure in the extension of the EEH report.

Sincerely yours,

T. R. Torkelson
Health Subcommittee Chairman

TRT/mp

Attachment

AN OPERATING UNIT OF THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY

UCC
007191

DRAFT--9/13/79

Dear Dr. W. A. Crosbie:

We are pleased that you are considering an independent review of the medical and toxicological literature of respiratory disorders related to fire. You asked for a fuller description of the extent of the review and this letter will attempt to present the goals of our plastics health and safety committee. Please consider these points.

- I. Are there differences in the respiratory pathology of modern fire victims as compared to those prior to 1940?
- II. Are there differences in the degree of delayed injury which becomes apparent 4-48 hours after the fire?
- III. In reviewing the literature, we would like comments on the limitations of the studies particularly as they indicate a need for more investigation of specific questions.

We would suggest that the old literature (prior to 1950) be searched to the extent that it provides a basis for these comparisons; that is key references particularly in the pathological literature may provide a basis for the comparison with modern victims.

Obviously, our concern is for the appropriate use of modern materials particularly polyvinyl chloride, and your finding and opinions will be of great interest.

Sincerely,

UCC
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