

PRESS QUERY

COMPANY (OpUnit or Corporate): MIC

SUBJECT: OCP AT STURGEON

REPORTER & MEDIA: Howard Mitchell (314) 449-1400
KFRU-Radio Columbia, Mo.

TIME & DATE: May 14, 1979 -- 2:12 p.m.

QUESTION & RESPONSE:

Handwritten initials: RLA

X News Bureau
X J. T. Nolan
X J. E. McKee
___ D. R. Bishop
___ W. J. McCarville
___ W. R. Mulhall
X J. F. Hussey-Washington, D.C.
X S. Pickard-Washington, D.C.
X New York Public Relations
___ Brussels Public Relations
___ MAP PR
X MCI PR (J. Spano)
X MIC PR (Glynn Young)
___ MPR PR
___ MTC PR
___ INT'L PR
X J. R. Foehr
X T. L. Gossage
X E. H. Harbison
X E. L. Head
X J. S. Metcalf
X J. C. McPhillips

Q. Have you done any more work to determine which type of dioxin was in the OCP?

A. Our analytical equipment is pretty sophisticated, but the dioxin was in such trace amounts that our equipment can't tell which isomer was there (explained different varieties of dioxins).

Q. What kind of dioxin did the EPA find in the workers' blood?

A. I don't know; ask them.

Q. Since the EPA is talking about dioxin in parts per trillion in the workers' blood and your sophisticated equipment can measure down to .010 parts per million, why the discrepancy in testing?

A. We were surprised that the EPA could measure dioxins down in the low parts per trillion. Our analytical people don't know the equipment they are using although there is no reason to doubt that they've found a new way to measure dioxins in these small amounts.

Q. What are you doing about the dioxins in your OCP?

A. The dioxins in the OCP don't belong there. They're a production impurity. We've made this product for many years and never found any TCDD in it. When the EPA asked us to sample our reserve sample from the tankcar involved, we did find TCDD. We started

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then to study our entire process and find the TCDD and eliminate it. Since then we have made two changes in our process. Hopefully, we've gotten rid of these trace amounts of dioxin; but we won't know until our tests are completed.

Source of answer: Files


Handled by: R. C. Isham