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R. N. WHEELER, JR.

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION - CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS

Bound Brook, New Jersey

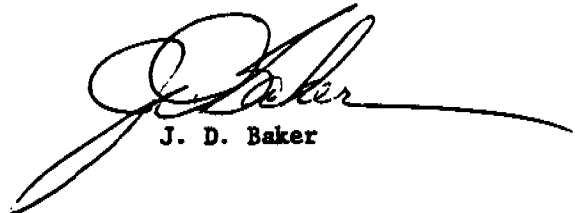
To: Mr. C. J. Brounstein - Chicago
Mr. R. A. DeCoudres/E. B. Sharp - BB
Mr. R. E. Graebert - SCTC
Dr. A. B. Steele - NY-28
Mr. A. A. Stella - Chicago
Mr. R. N. Wheeler - SC /

April 1, 1974

Re: MCA Meeting -
March 1, 1974

Attached for your information are the minutes of a special MCA meeting called at the request of Borden, Inc. to determine the need for an industry-wide program to gather valid data on the thermal decomposition products of PVC film resin formulations and their effect on worker health. As the minutes indicate, a definite need was felt to exist and a special Task Force has been formed to recommend a program for MCA sponsorship and industry support.

To date our only involvement in this activity has been my attendance at this initial meeting. Once the research program is defined, we can decide the extent to which we wish to participate.



J. D. Baker

JDB:mts
Attached

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Manufacturing Chemists Association

TECHNICAL MEETING ON THERMAL DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS
OF
POLYVINYL CHLORIDE FILMS

MCA Conference Room

Washington, D. C.

March 1, 1974

RECORD OF MEETING

PRESENT:

W. V. Andresen	American Cyanamid Company
J. D. Baker	Union Carbide Corporation
Frank Barbuscio	American Cyanamid Company
W. E. Barr	The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Paul Beebe, Jr.	The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
R. Burkhart	Reynolds Metals Company
R. E. Byrne	Clopay Corporation
J. J. Connor	Polyvinyl Films, Inc.
Tom Connor	Polyvinyl Films, Inc.
A. S. Cummin	Borden, Inc.
A. S. D'Amato	Borden, Inc.
R. S. Detrick	Koppers Company, Inc.
K. W. Easley	Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Company
G. E. Field	Filmco
T. M. Finnegan	Filmco
R. W. Frank	Ferro Corporation
F. C. Gregory	Ethyl Corporation
L. Gross	Tenneco Chemicals, Inc.
R. W. Gutheil	Borden, Inc.
D. E. Harrington	The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Richard Henderson	Olin Corporation
L. E. Ice	Diamond Shamrock Corporation
G. W. Ingle	Monsanto Company
E. J. Jacob	Filmco
D. G. James	Borden Chemical Division of Borden, Inc.
W. W. Kocher	Borden, Inc.
Bruno Krueger	Borden Chemical Division of Borden, Inc.
Max Miller	Ethyl Corporation
R. C. Parsons	Reynolds Metals Company

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Record of March 1, 1974 Meeting
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PRESENT (cont.):

P. M. Peltz	Diamond Shamrock Corporation
W. E. Rinehart	Ethyl Corporation
E. E. Sandmeyer	Gulf Oil Corporation
J. P. Stallings	Chemetron Corporation
M. F. Tarker, Jr.	FMC Corporation
H. J. Trochimowicz	E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
Delbert Volchko	Filmco
J. A. Yourtee	FMC Corporation
B. M. Barackman	MCA
A. C. Clark	MCA
K. D. Johnson	MCA
H. L. Slatin	MCA
F. G. Stephenson	MCA

Mr. A. C. Clark convened the meeting at 10:00 AM. After he had briefly summarized the background for this meeting, and after those present had identified themselves and their companies, Mr. R. W. Gutheil, of Borden, Inc., was appointed chairman pro tem.

Mr. Gutheil recounted the increasing attention to the problem of alleged respiratory tract irritation in food packagers with exposure to the fumes generated in the hot-wire cutting and heat sealing of polyvinyl chloride films. He stressed the concern of industry that incomplete and inaccurate information was receiving wide dissemination and generating undue concern among both employees working with this material and the general public. He indicated particular concern that the public and the unions were confusing the problem, if any, of PVC film emissions and that of the risks of angiosarcoma experienced by workers in the PVC polymerization industry.

An informal poll of the companies represented at this meeting revealed that there was widespread interest in setting up an industry funded effort to generate valid data on the nature and extent of the problem, and of routes to its

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solution. Although commitments of support by a number of the companies were conditioned upon the ability of the group to develop acceptable plans and protocols for the project, it was evident that the great majority of those companies represented were interested in participation in a broad and meaningful investigation of the technical and communications problems faced by the manufacturers of film resins and their formulators and fabricators.

It was moved to define the mission and scope of the proposed project as follows:

- (1) a study of the decomposition products from polyvinyl chloride film resin formulations under heating short of ignition or combustion, and
- (2) a study of the health effects, if any, of such products as influenced by the various temperature, humidity, or other environmental factors attendant upon the processing and uses of the film resin formulations.

The motion was discussed in detail, and a number of motions to amend were offered and rejected. It was the consensus that the scope and mission of the project should be kept focused on the physical chemistry and industrial hygiene problems associated with plasticized PVC films under conditions associated with their formulation, fabrication, and use in their intended applications, and that it should not be broadened at this time to allow inclusion of potential occupational health effects associated with the molding, extrusion, or use application of rigid sheets, pipe and tubing, and other fabricated items.

A motion to amend item (1) of the original motion, by striking the phrase after heating, and inserting in its place the corresponding phrase from item (2) "attendant upon processing and uses of film resin formulations" carried, and the motion so amended was approved by voice vote.

It was agreed to name a small group to develop detailed recommendations for those elements of the project necessary for consideration by potential supporters of a research project and subsequent presentation to the MCA Board with any request for their approval of MCA administration of the project. These would include:

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- (1) Mission and Scope
- (2) Recommended research projects, with protocols and budgets
- (3) Proposed bases for allocation of project costs among its sponsors.

The following companies volunteered to provide representatives to the group:

Borden, Inc.
Filmco (R. J. Reynolds)
Diamond Shamrock Corporation
Ethyl Corporation
Reynolds Metals Company
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Clipay Corporation
Monsanto Company (tentative)
Tenneco Chemicals, Inc. (tentative)

The first meeting of the group was scheduled for 10:00 AM, Wednesday, March 6, 1974. Subsequent to the adjournment of the meeting, Dr. K. D. Johnson, MCA staff representative, arranged for the meeting to be held at the DuPont Plaza Hotel, in the Gallery Room.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth D. Johnson, Ph.D.
Assistant Technical Director

KDJ:mb

Record Subject to Approval
March 28, 1974

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