



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

BUREAU OF STATE SERVICES

Refer to:

APR 1 - 1960

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
The Kettering Laboratory
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine - Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

The questions raised in your communication of March 3 relative to tetramethyl lead (TML) have been referred to representatives of the Air Pollution Engineering, Air Pollution Medical and Occupational Health Programs. Although the Public Health Service has no legal authority to prescribe the concentration of lead in gasoline, our staff has made technical review of the suggestions included in your letter and advises that they appear to be reasonable under the present circumstances, and consistent with our previous discussions, specifically as follows:

1. The maximum concentration of TML in gasoline be limited at this time to 2.06 ml per American gallon. This is equivalent in lead content to gasolines containing 3 ml of TEL per gallon.
2. The present warning sign on pumps and other containers be changed to read "lead alkyl" rather than "lead tetraethyl." Otherwise the sign would be identical to that in present use. A sign with this terminology could then be used on gasoline pumps or containers containing either TEL or TML.
3. In the case of gasolines containing a mixture of TEL and TML, the maximum concentration of lead not be in excess of the equivalent of 4 ml TEL/gal and that the TML fraction be no greater than the lead equivalent of 2.06 ml of TML.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Pease

Assistant Surgeon General
Chief, Bureau of State Services

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