

Lead Industries Association, Inc.

292 Madison Avenue • New York, N. Y. 10017 • Telephone: (212) 679-6020

MINUTES OF THE 1971 SPRING MEETING

of the

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

of the

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION, INC.

April 6, 1971

In accordance with the notice of March 1, 1971, the 1971 Spring Meeting of the LIA Environmental Health Committee was convened at 2 p.m., Tuesday, April 6, at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

J. G. Sevick presided and J. F. Cole served as secretary.

Those in attendance were:

J. G. Sevick (Chairman)
T. J. Smith
P. S. I. Barry
F. Osborne
R. C. Bell
D. R. Diggs
W. M. Pallies
H. E. Hesselberg
F. Slomba
R. Rogers
C. Thompson
O. Fremd
R. Sugimoto
J. C. Calandra
W. L. Mann
D. H. Beilstein
W. C. Zeek

St. Joe Minerals Corp.
American Smelting and Refining Co.
Associated Ocel Co., Ltd.
The Broken Hill Associated Smelters Pty., Ltd.
Cominco, Ltd.
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
ESB, Inc.
Ethyl Corp.
Gould, Inc.
Hill and Knowlton, Inc.
Hill and Knowlton, Inc.
Houston Chemical Co.
Houston Chemical Co.
Nalco Chemical Co.
National Lead Co.
St. Joe Minerals Corp.
C. Tennant Sons & Co.

Staff

J. L. Kimberley
D. M. Borcina
D. Lynam
J. F. Cole

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LIA-ILZRO

Dr. Cole explained that since the meeting of the LIA Health and Safety Committee in April, 1970, Mr. J. C. Roumas, Director of Health and Safety for LIA, had resigned. Subsequent to his resignation, the decision has been reached to combine the Environmental Health activities of both LIA and ILZRO into one department. J. F. Cole was appointed Manager, Environmental Health for the new department. Also, Mr. Donald Lynam, presently working on his Ph. D. degree at the University of Cincinnati's Kettering Laboratory has accepted the position of Assistant Manager, Environmental Health for the new department, and will join the department on a full time basis in June, 1971. Mr. Lynam was introduced by Dr. Cole. Dr. Cole noted that the management and operations expenses of the new department will be borne equally by LIA and ILZRO.

Dr. Cole reminded the Committee that its function is to recommend staff activities, such as publications and industry positions on legislative matters. Another important function is to recommend research projects to ILZRO.

Mr. Hesselberg suggested that since the LIA and ILZRO Environmental Health activities are now combined, that it would be better to have only a single committee meeting instead of separate meeting. Dr. Cole agreed that this would be simpler but noted that the membership of LIA and ILZRO are different and since voting on research monetary matters is strictly an ILZRO function, it may not be possible to combine the meetings. Dr. Cole agreed to look into methods for reducing duplication, however.

I. LIA's Role in Environmental Health--J. L. Kimberley

Mr. Kimberley presented an overview of the past year's activities of LIA in Environmental Health. The main activity has been, of course, defending the use of lead anti-knock compounds in gasoline. Mr. Kimberley has testified before numerous governmental bodies and Dr. Cole has on one occasion presented the lead industry's point of view on the health questions before the California Air Resources Board. Mr. Kimberley noted that the controversy over lead in gasoline is not yet settled, that LIA will certainly continue to be active in this area. He mentioned that there has been some change on the part of the automobile companies with regard to the potential of catalytic mufflers for the control of hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen oxides. At a recent press conference, officials of General Motors indicated that catalysts will not be available in the near future and that present estimates of the costs of such systems would be approximately \$200 per car. Mr. Kimberley also indicated that the du Pont automobiles, fitted with the thermal reactor, are now being tested by the California Air Resources Board.

Brief mention was also made of the activities of LIA in attempting to educate ceramists as to the proper use of lead in ceramic glazes. It was mentioned that despite LIA's efforts, there was a recent death of a child in Philadelphia who had been drinking large quantities of a grape drink stored in a pitcher which released large quantities of lead. This pitcher was manufactured by a rather large U. S. company. This sad incident demonstrates that LIA's task of educating ceramists is far from complete.

Mr. Kimberley indicated that there is now considerable interest in the amounts of lead in food and water. While these areas have not been actively pursued by governmental officials, there is ample evidence that their interest is growing. It was mentioned that the FDA will soon begin a market-basket survey to determine the quantity of lead in the diet of Americans.

Dr. Cole noted that literally thousands of the booklet, "Facts About Lead and Pediatric

have been distributed to interested public health professionals and the general public all over the U. S. The response to this booklet has been excellent and at present, LIA is preparing another large printing of this booklet.

Mr. Borcina briefly mentioned that LIA is also interested in legislation affecting the use of lead in paints. Recently, a federal law was passed limiting the use of lead in paint on residential structures built with federal funds. This has spurred various states to introduce legislation in the field. LIA has not testified on any of these bills, preferring to allow the National Paint, Varnish and Laquer Association to present the case. A recent bill in Illinois would eliminate the use of more than 1% lead for exterior paints. The National Paint, Varnish and Laquer Association supports a modification of the bill which would allow the use of up to 5% lead for exterior paints including paints to be used on porches. LIA disagrees with this and will not support a modification of the bill which would allow paint containing more than 1% lead to be used in any area where children might be able to eat the paint.

A brief discussion followed, touching on several current items of interest. Mr. Hesselberg commented that the recently released report of the U. S. Department of Commerce Panel on Lead in Gasoline made a point of attempting to discredit work done by the U. S. Bureau of Mines on the effect of the use of lead free gasolines in increasing photochemical smog. Since this has been a major argument for the continued use of leaded fuels, this is expected to have a detrimental effect on the lead industry. It was mentioned that there is now an attempt to repeat the U. S. Bureau of Mines study in Irvine, California. However, there are at this time, no results because of experimental problems.

Dr. Calandra asked if there was any definitive information on the lead tax. Dr. Diggs mentioned that there is now a collaboration between the Environmental Protection Agency and the U. S. Treasury Department to gather information necessary to schedule lead restrictions. It was mentioned that in addition to the proposed lead tax, there is also now proposed a tax on the sulphur content of fuels. (See enclosed copy of the President's 1971 Environmental Program--Note especially page 4). Mr. Thompson noted that the government is taking a new position on the lead tax now emphasizing the environmental aspects, whereas last year the revenue aspects of the tax were emphasized. Mr. Hesselberg mentioned that Bonner and Moore are conducting a survey to establish the economic impact of the elimination of lead from gasoline. He alerted LIA that it might be contacted by Bonner and Moore.

Mr. Hesselberg also reported on the present status of the California legislation to phase out lead from gasoline in that State. This bill, known as Assembly Bill 339, has now passed the Committee responsible for it in the California Assembly, and has gone to the full Assembly for consideration. Mr. Hesselberg predicted that the bill would most likely pass the Assembly. However, to become law, it must pass the California Senate where it was defeated last year.

II. Impact of Federal Regulations on the Lead Industry--C. Thompson

LIA-77080

Mr. Thompson of Hill and Knowlton reported briefly on three new acts which will have an effect on the lead industry. These were: (1) The Occupational Safety and Health Act, (2) The Amendment to the Clean Air Act, and (3) the enforcement of the Refuse Act of 1899, affecting water quality. Mr. Thompson noted that it was difficult to predict the impact that these laws might have on the lead industries but that certainly they would be felt. Mr. Thompson also pointed out that with the formation of the new Environmental Protection Agency, there is likely to be a more legalistic approach to the environment. In other words, the EPA is not looking so much toward pollution abatement, but rather, to strict law enforcement.

III. State Air Quality Standards for Lead--D. Borcina

Mr. Borcina reported that LIA is currently accumulating all the air pollution laws of the various states and will, in the near future, publish a compilation of them. At present, there are very few states which actually have an air quality standard for lead. The most recent state to adopt such a standard was California. This occurred in November, 1970. The standard adopted was 1.5 ug/m^3 on a 30-day average.

IV. New Tentative Threshold Limit Value for Lead

Dr. Cole announced that the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, Threshold Limit Value Committee, has recently listed a new TLV for lead as 0.15 mg/m^3 . This is a reduction from the previous TLV of 0.2 mg/m^3 . This change will go on the tentative list for a period of time, and the industry will have an opportunity to submit data if it feels that the new value is incorrect. There was some discussion as to whether LIA should attempt to have the TLV changed to its previous level and it was finally decided that Mr. Lynam would obtain a copy of the new Documentation for the new TLV. Further, it was decided that upon reviewing the TLV, LIA would take a stand on the new tentative TLV for lead. (Mr. Lynam has obtained a copy of the new Documentation and it is enclosed with this report).

V. Activities of the Battery Council International in Water Pollution--W. Mann

Mann reported that the Battery Council International had obtained a proposal from the Illinois Institute of Technology Research Institute (IITRI) to perform an engineering evaluation of the control techniques for controlling lead effluent from battery plants. He also mentioned that ILZRO has also received a proposal from the same organization to study the effects of lead, zinc and cadmium on secondary sewage treatment plants. It was proposed that ILZRO join the BCI in supporting this program. Further, Mr. Mann noted that once the program was underway, there is a good possibility that the Federal Water Quality Administration will join in financing this project. Dr. Cole noted that ILZRO would consider joining the BCI in supporting this proposal at the ILZRO Lead Environmental Health Committee meeting on April 7.

VI. Blood and Urine Lead Analysis, LIA Laboratory Accreditation--J. F. Cole

Dr. Cole noted that in the past, the LIA has attempted to endorse an LIA laboratory. At certain times in the past, the ASARCO laboratory in Salt Lake City and the ESB laboratory in Philadelphia have been considered. Unfortunately, because of corporate policies and potential legal difficulties, the establishment of an LIA laboratory has never been achieved. Dr. Cole suggested that for the purpose of compiling a list of recommended analytical laboratories, LIA may wish to accredit any laboratory meeting its standards for blood and urine lead analyses. There were severe objections to this proposal since many of the Committee members felt that LIA would be opening itself up to potential legal problems. Mr. Smith noted that ASARCO is currently looking into the legal ramifications of opening a commercial laboratory for the purpose of doing blood and urine lead analyses and that he would report to LIA the findings of the ASARCO lawyers. It was agreed that this matter would be tabled pending the report from ASARCO.

VII. Suggestions from Members

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Mr. Hesselberg recommended strongly that LIA immediately undertake a complete literature survey of information dealing with the childhood lead poisoning problem. This was in response to the obvious intentions of the EPA to devote increased attention to this problem in the immediate future. While several potential contractors were discussed, it was agreed that Hill and Knowlton would take on this job and have a pre-

liminary report by May 1. Mr. Borcina agreed that he would offer Hill and Knowlton's services for this task.

VIII. Election of a Chairman for 1971-72

Since he has been chairman for a considerable length of time, Mr. Sevick asked that a new chairman be elected. Mr. Donald Beilstein nominated Mr. William Pallies, whereupon the nominations were closed and Mr. Pallies was unanimously elected as chairman for 1971-72.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

April 20, 1971

Jerome T. Cole

THE PRESIDENT'S
1971 ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

Controlling Pollution

BOOK ONE OF A THREE-PART SERIES



REFORM
RENEWAL FOR THE 70's

LIA-77083

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
722 JACKSON PLACE, NW.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the President, I am sending you this booklet on the Administration's 1971 Environmental Quality proposals. Enhancing the quality of the environment is one of six goals the President set forth in his January State of the Union Message, and was the subject of a major message to Congress of February 8, 1971.

That message outlined a comprehensive attack on the Nation's chief environmental problems. It dealt with three major categories: strengthening pollution control programs, applying measures to control emerging problems, and promoting environmental quality in our land use decisions. To implement the program, the President has submitted to Congress 15 bills and is recommending three new pieces of tax legislation.

The proposals discussed in this, the first of three booklets, cover the category of strengthening pollution control programs. These proposals include an incentive charge on sulfur oxide emissions, a tax on lead in gasoline, a \$12 billion nationwide waste treatment financing program, tightened water pollution standards and enforcement, and a revamping of our pesticides law to control use of these materials.

We hope this booklet will be helpful to you in understanding the problems and our proposed solutions. In the near future, you will be receiving two additional mailings dealing with the land use and the emerging problems portions of the President's Environmental Message. Among matters covered in these booklets will be a National Land Use Policy, a new parks to the people program, strip mining, powerplant siting, measures to control noise, ocean dumping, and toxic substances.

LIA-77084

These legislative proposals will not of themselves enhance the quality of the environment. Ultimately, it will require the broad participation of all the American people, including the State and local governments that serve them, if we are to be successful, and this participation is only possible when the citizenry is well informed.

In his February Environmental Message to Congress, President Nixon called upon all Americans "to dedicate themselves to the goal of restoring the environment and reclaiming the earth for ourselves and our posterity. . . . Together, we hold this good earth in trust. We must—and together we can—prove ourselves worthy of that trust."

Sincerely,

RUSSELL E. TRAIN
Chairman
March 2, 1971

LIA-77085

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energy supplies. These two measures—the sulfur oxides emissions charge and expanded environmental programs—should provide both the incentive for abatement and the means for doing so.

AIR POLLUTION

TAX ON LEAD IN GASOLINE

The Problem

Air pollution from automobiles is clearly one of our major environmental problems. The smog that was originally considered to be a Southern California problem is now becoming a national phenomenon.

Lead in gasoline adds to the automotive air pollution problem in two ways. First, lead fouls some of the major emission control systems now being developed to meet the 1975 air quality standards.

Second, lead itself is a pollutant. Over 95 percent of the total lead emitted into the atmosphere derives from additives in gasoline. Lead particles can penetrate the lungs and can be retained and absorbed in the blood stream. In urban areas, the margin of safety between blood levels of lead in humans and levels at which lead poisoning symptoms have been identified are growing smaller. While no clear case has been found of lead poisoning from automobile emissions, there is ample reason for concern.

The Clean Air Act of 1970 authorized control of lead levels in gasoline. However, a ban is not feasible because over one-half of the vehicles now on the road require high octane gasoline which, in general, can only be achieved using lead additives. The Federal Government can and will require that unleaded gasoline be available, but it cannot assure that people will buy it. Since the cost of low-lead or nonleaded gasoline is higher, there is little incentive for car owners to purchase it. In fact, current low-lead or nonleaded gasoline is not selling well.

The President's Proposal

The President is again proposing a special tax on lead additives in gasoline. The tax would allow consumers to buy the low or unleaded fuels at no price disadvantage over leaded gasolines, and hence creates an economic incentive for refiners to produce more low or unleaded gasoline. This special charge would help to bring about, at reasonable costs, the gradual transition to use of unleaded gasoline, which is essential to reduce lead emissions and to meet the other emission control standards scheduled to come into effect for the 1975 automobiles.

WATER QUALITY: MUNICIPAL WASTES

The Problem

Despite considerable Federal assistance to States and municipalities for waste treatment over the last 15 years, our requirements have far outpaced actual construction. In addition to the difficulties of obtaining local financing, Federal appropriations for constructing municipal treatment plants have totaled only about one-third of the funds authorized since the passage of the Clean Water Restoration Act of 1966. Not until 1970 did Federal funding increase significantly—to \$800 million from \$214 million in 1969. For 1971, the Congress appropriated \$1 billion, a figure consistent with the President's request for \$1 billion per year over a 4-year period to provide the Federal share of a \$10 billion program, which represented the best estimate of needs at that time.

As a result of past levels of construction, only 40 percent of the Nation's treatment systems are adequate as shown below:

Since last year's proposal, the Environmental Protection Agency has canvassed most major municipalities to develop the best estimate possible of sewage treatment needs. That study indicated a need for a \$12 billion national program, which would include a \$6 billion Federal share over the next 3 years.