

Interoffice

PITTSBURGH PLATE GLASS COMPANY

CHEMICAL DIVISION

Correspondence

P. O. BOX 1000

LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

Date December 29, 1965 Subject
To W. L. Smith, Jr.
From D. D. Dupre Reference

This letter is to firm up the results of today's meeting with Jim Wyche and company.

Starting today and continuing for several weeks there will be construction welding, etc., in and near the HCl plant. This, plus times when there are major upsets in the MC plant, could be hazardous if not properly supervised. The day Area B shift engineer (and 1/2 hour of the third shift engineer) will supply 100% safety supervision of this work starting at 7:00 a.m. and continuing as long as the construction workers are on the job that day.

1. The shift engineer will have the prerogative to ask the construction workers to stop welding, and/or shut down all machinery, and/or leave the immediate area; the extent of which depends on the circumstances at the time. He will also be responsible for insisting on safety measures such as fire blankets, water sprays, air movers, etc., that the constructors should use to perform the job safely. These requests will be made through PPG's field supervision.

The shift engineer will also be responsible for asking the operators to take what steps are necessary to minimize trouble while construction workers are present. In the event of plant upsets, and higher risk periods, he may also ask that the work stop, even though no trouble may eventually occur.

2. As near as possible the same construction workers will be used from day to day in the HCl area. Even so, at the beginning of each work day or when new men are assigned, the workers should be informed or reminded of the safety procedures in effect. This should include a knowledge of the meaning and location of the blinking red light and warning Klaxon horn. Even without the warning system he should know to shut down his torch, machinery, etc., and leave the area for peculiar circumstances such as an HCl burner top lifting, or a sudden release of a visible vapor cloud or strong odor. Needless to say, pocket respirators should be used whenever such a release occurs.
3. Whenever the Klaxon horn is heard, all machinery should be stopped and the men should leave the area at a safe rate of speed. A blinking red light (on the pipe rack between the HCl and MC plants) will start simultaneously with the horn and the area should remain clear as long as the light is on, even though horn will be shut off after the initial warning.

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4. Construction workers not in the immediate vicinity of the HCl and MC plants, although they are less likely to be effected, should nevertheless be periodically reminded that they too should follow similar courses of action in the event of a major upset in the plant.

The above procedures are a result of a respect for what could happen. Since they could be misconstrued, however, and generate fear, I strongly suggest that your foremen pass the word verbally, rather than distributing copies of this letter.



D. D. Dupre

DDD:mc

cc: D. L. Duncan
R. E. Baker
A. B. McRae (2)
L. L. Atwell
Shift Engineers
J. E. Wyche
~~T. G. Taylor~~