



FERRO CORPORATION

4150 EAST 55th STREET

CLEVELAND 5, OHIO

January 24, 1961

Dr. R. T. Johnstone
Room 719 Brockman Bldg.
520 West Seventh Street
Los Angeles, California

Dr. Johnstone, Edwin Dietterle joins with me in expressing appreciation of your time and interest in the Lauri Pottery problem. Thank you very much.

This letter covers the essential points discussed in Berkeley, California with Dr. Christine Einert and associates. It is written at your request, and a copy is forwarded to Mr. Ziegfield in New York. (My travel schedule introduces delay in your receiving the letter. This cannot be avoided and know it will cause you no inconvenience).

On January 11, 1961, Mr. Dietterle and the writer met with Dr. Christine Einert at the State Health Department in Berkeley, California. The meeting was attended by three members of the California Department of Health Industrial Hygiene Division.

The following paragraphs represent the subjects covered.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

To discuss lead release from glazes fired on food service ware.

To clarify California's proposed limits of acceptance of four parts per million of lead using the ASTM testing procedure.

Modification was requested and reasons were presented supporting our request that would be beneficial to the Department of Health and the industry.

The present requirements be modified to avoid identifying the total precipitate as lead.

Future publications of the recommended procedure should include pre-testing cleaning and drying.

Future publication should identify the test liquid surface and minimum area acceptable.

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"ASTM boiling distilled vinegar test," as an accelerated test and not typical of normal use.

We argued in favor of adjusting their minimum acceptable standards upward permanently or for enough time to give the industry an opportunity to develop their own standards.

We argued convincingly in favor of the Health Department obtaining the services of an industry committee of technicians to assist them because the present tentative proposals will have significant impact upon the California potteries.

We generally discussed the public health problems as evidenced, and supported by a very low incidence of similar cases wherein members of the public become ill from lead from food and dishes. This point suggests the present proposed test may be too severe.

We reviewed in great detail the technical problems the pottery industry will have to solve to comply with the current requirement. This review included a discussion of the economic impact and probable need for additional capital investment in equipment in many cases.

Dr. Zinert reports their present activity and future plans as follows:

They will continue testing dinnerware from retail outlets in California. The test include dinnerware manufactured in all States and countries.

They expect to develop data leading to model legislation at the Federal level.

They hope with the United States Public Health Department's support, that model legislation will be adopted by States and provide uniformity. Their work may produce evidence supporting changes in their practices as applied to the State problem.

Best personal regards,

FERRO CORPORATION

Russell W. Frank
Safety Director

KE 6006022