

To: (See Attached Distribution List) Date: September 18, 1974

From: Dr. A. B. Steele

Subject: Vinyl Resin Operations
Flash Report

Vinyl Chloride Monomer

Films-Packaging Division has acquired by purchase 1,500,000 pounds of monomer which will be converted to PVC suspension homopolymer at Texas City during September operations.

On September 5th, OSHA (Department of Labor) issued a FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT - PROPOSED REGULATION - VINYL CHLORIDE. This revised statement represents a significant modification of the original draft of June 12th and purports to include constructive revisions proposed by many in government, labor, and industry, including specific recommendations from Messrs. J. W. Whittlesey and R. N. Wheeler. In summary, the Statement now concludes that the primary alternatives to the OSHA proposal are: (1) covering only monomer and polymer producers rather than compounding and fabricating operations as well; (2) establishing a permissible level of exposure higher than no detectable level up to 50 ppm; (3) utilizing a staging schedule for implementation; and (4) banning the use of vinyl chloride altogether.

During the past week, OSHA requested that the SPI survey member PVC producers to determine the extent that respirators would be required at various levels of VCM downward from 40 ppm (ceiling) and 25 ppm (8-hour TWA). UCC has responded based on current plant experience on all lines at both Texas City and South Charleston.

Suspension Resins

Production was at full rate making both homopolymer and copolymer until September 1st when a shortage of VCM caused a significant cutback in homopolymer output. The monomer shortage occurred as Dow continued the 80% allocation and despite pre-shipment on August 30th of 1.8 MM pounds of September's allocation. Full rates on all lines will be resumed by September 5th when monomer from toll conversion agreements arrives at Texas City in addition to regular Dow shipments.

August suspension production was 12,879 M pounds, of which 4,743 M pounds was copolymer.

Non-Solvent Resins

The unit produced good quality VYNW all week. August production was 1,728 M pounds.

A. B. Steele

ABS:ml

UCC 095299

DISTRIBUTION LIST -- WEEKLY FLASH REPORT -- VINYL OPERATIONS

TO: Mr. E. Bell	312	Bound Brook (Bldg. 72)
Mr. G. P. Bigelow	33	New York Office
Mr. P. E. Bouffard	28	New York Office
Mr. L. D. Burnett	28	New York Office
Mr. J. L. Carvajal	514	South Charleston (Plant)
Mr. D. Engle	515	Texas City
Mr. E. F. Cox	312	Bound Brook (Bldg. 200)
Mr. R. G. Davis	312	Bound Brook (Bldg. 72)
Mr. M. E. Eisenhour	515	Texas City
Mr. C. R. Field	28	New York Office
Mr. R. L. Frantz	515	Texas City ✓
Mr. J. E. Giffin	514	South Charleston (Plant)
Mr. R. J. Hanna	511	South Charleston (Tech Center)
Mr. J. M. Herbert	28	New York Office
Dr. M. H. Jellinek	32	New York Office
Dr. W. R. Manning	511	South Charleston (Tech Center)
Mr. S. A. Mortimer	28	New York Office
Mr. J. Nesmith	33	New York Office
Mr. G. J. Norberg	28	New York Office
Mr. G. T. Scott	28	New York Office
Mr. G. C. Shipston	28	New York Office
Dr. A. B. Steele	28	New York Office
Mr. G. F. Tacquard	515	Texas City
Mr. R. N. Wheeler	514	South Charleston (Plant)
Dr. V. Z. Williams	28	New York Office

UCC 095300