June 7, 1962

Mr. Thomas Dunlop, Jr.
Industrial Prod. Department
Shell Chemical Corporation
50 West 50th Street
New York 20, New York

Dear Mr. Dunlop:

Mr. Smith has asked me to reply to a question raised in your recent correspondence with him relative to the toxicity and safety of Pydraul A-200.

I have attached a summary of animal toxicity data and our interpretation of such data as it might apply to workmen exposed to vapors of this fluid. The last paragraph refers to a situation where the fluid might be sprayed on heated surfaces resulting in either vaporization of the fluid and/or the evolution of decomposition products depending on the temperature of the heated surfaces.

It is our opinion that the vapors or decomposition products from Pydraul A-200 would be no more toxic than those arising from other Pydraul fluids. Without any decomposition, high concentrations of Pydraul A-200 vapors would be irritating to the eyes and respiratory tract. Since one of the chief decomposition products would be HCl, obviously the decomposition would be even more discomforting. The spraying of the fluid on heated surfaces as the result of accidental line breakage or failure, results in the creation of an atmosphere that workmen will not tolerate voluntarily without respiratory protective devices. This in itself limits the exposure to seriously toxic concentrations.

We do not intend to imply that Pydraul A-200 should be used in such a fashion that there is continuous leakage of the fluid when it is at elevated temperatures. Continuous inhalation of vapors should not be condoned. This fact is

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emphasized by the statements on our labels which indicate that the fluid contains chlorinated hydrocarbons" and recommend the avoidance of prolonged breathing of vapors or mists or prolonged contact with the skin. Such precautionary statements appear on all of our Pydraul fluids which contain chlorinated hydrocarbons.

Very truly yours,

Elmer P. Wheeler
Assistant Director
Medical Department

EPW:sg
Enclosure
CC: Mr. D. F. Smith
Monsanto Chemical Company
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis 66, Missouri

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