

August 12, 1937

Dr. Graham Edgar
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
Chrysler Building
New York City
New York

Dear Graham:

I have deliberately delayed answering your letter of August 5th in order to think over the problem presented by it. Obviously the proposal of Mr. Beall to use an injector and a somewhat more concentrated Ethyl Fluid solution is opposed to our present practice. There will undoubtedly be certain dangers associated with the distribution and use of such a product. On the other hand, I am disposed to feel that if it could be shown that the use of such an injector and that such Fluid contributed materially to the safety of operation of transport planes, I should be willing to make some compromise in the matter of our regulations. When all is said, the purpose of our regulations is to provide a greater safety in the use of a dangerous commodity. We can scarcely afford to stick to a regulation as though it were a sacred law which could not be broken under any circumstances. Therefore I think this matter should be gone into very carefully and examined as to its merits. If it can be shown that the product can be handled with a reasonable safety, and if it can be shown that its use contributes to safety, I should be willing to see our practice modified to this extent. However as a matter of policy, I should consider it wise to present the facts to Dr. Sayers before actually entering into such an arrangement. I have an idea that Sayers' point of view would be similar to mine, but in the situation that exists with relation to the Public Health Service, I do not think we should make any move which might bring our good faith into question.

I am leaving on Saturday for approximately a month's vacation. Machle will be in the office during my absence and he is in possession of

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practically all the information which I possess on matters of policy, and on pending situations. You need not hesitate to get in touch with him if need be, although I should suggest, perhaps, that he will be very busy in my absence and will appreciate very much any efforts made to limit correspondence.

With kindest personal regards,

I am

Sincerely yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.