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24 BRANFORD PLACE
NEWARK 2, N. J.

SEYMOUR A. LUBETKIN
CHIEF ENGINEER
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CLERK AND TYP.

July 3, 1956.

Mr. Seymour A. Lubetkin, Chief Engineer,
Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners,
24 Branford Place,
Newark, N. J.

Dear Mr. Lubetkin: Re: Diamond Alkali Co., 80 Lister Ave., Newark.

In compliance with your request an investigation was made by Mr. F. Capone of the chemical discharge to the river. He traced it to the above company and brought a sample back with him for analysis.

The sample consisted of a water suspension of a light gray sediment. The pH of the liquid was high (10.4) and there was a strong solvent odor and a thin film of solvent on the surface.

At 9:30 A.M. today Mr. Andolino, Goldberg and Capone visited the plant. Precisely at this moment a 6" cast iron line was discharging a pink suspension to the river. It had the same characteristic odor and the high pH (10.5-11) of the previous sample. While we waited for the plant manager, Mr. Burton, to appear; the discharge suddenly changed to a clear colorless liquid like water with a pH of 7.5. This is one of the reasons for failure to discover this pollution previously, because it is an intermittent discharge and not a continuous practise.

Mr. Burton explained that they were a new outfit and that they knew nothing of anti-pollution laws. He promised us that this discharge would be placed in the sanitary sewer as soon as they make the necessary connections. This plant will be kept under observation until the work is completed and a further report will be made.

Very truly yours,

Alexander S. Goldberg
Alexander S. Goldberg
Director of Sanitation
Control.

Michael D. Andolino
Michael D. Andolino
Chief Inspector.

ASG:WP
MDA:

