

July 26, 1956

Dr. Bruce Gleissner

Mr. John Burton

Newark Effluent Problem

cc: Mr. W. Taylor

The following will bring you up to date on happenings since my memo of July 10th.

JUL 30 1956

The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission inspectors together with Mr. Goldberg (Assistant Director of Sanitation Control) made a check of our effluent on July 20th. At this time our 2,4-D operation was shut down and our effluent was in relatively clean condition. This time they objected to the high B.O.D. of all the samples, to their smell, and to traces of solvent which were detected in one sample from the ester unit.

CENT. INGRES.	
	CCB
	RCS
	WJL
	JVM
	HRW
	RFS
	NGA
	FHR
	RAD
	EGI
	ERM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WEL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILE
	DESTROY

It develops that the commissioners have put the pressure on the inspectors to go after us, particularly because of the smell they feel we are contributing to the river. Although we might stay out of trouble on alkali, acid and solids content, I do not think we have much of a chance if they are going to analyze for B.O.D. and smell. I think our best hope at this time is that we can keep out of serious trouble until we get our 2,4-D filtrate diverted to the local sewer and to hope that we will be able to get by with our various acidic effluents from the DDT, HCB and Miticide operations in our main building. From talking to the inspectors, I do not believe they are going to look for trouble as far as any pH problems are concerned provided that the effluent is clean and does not contribute any color or traces of solvent to the river. However, they are particular about minute traces of oil or color and even slight contamination from lubrication oil, etc. will have to be watched carefully. We are trying to get better housekeeping in general in our river front but it is still not in satisfactory shape.

I discussed the sewer situation in Newark with the local authorities. We are lucky in having a sewer running down Lister Avenue with substantial unused capacity which will handle chemical wastes. The regulations limit the pH, toxicity, etc., of materials put in this sewer. However, at present, apparently it is being used for dilute acids and unless some occurrence happens to stir up trouble I anticipate we could run our 2,4-D effluent into this sewer without neutralization. I plan to actively proceed with getting layout and estimate for running approximately an 8" tile sewer which we would like to do if possible during the shut down period. We will do this on the basis of initially discharging our 2,4-D effluent as is but keeping in mind the possibility of perhaps having to neutralize these wastes at a later date and also possibly having to run our effluents from our main building into this sewer at a later date.

JB: jp

John Burton