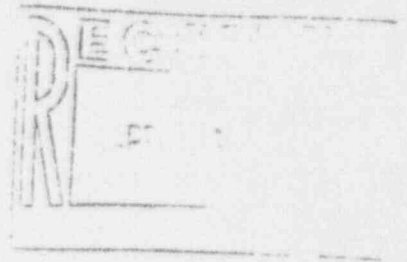




The University of Oklahoma
Health Sciences Center

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE
College of Medicine
Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine

EST UOKHS



April 5, 1993

Mr. L.J. Callan
Director, DR5S
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011

Dear Mr. Callan:

Enclosed please find the supplemental report requested by Ms. Linda Kasner regarding an 11/17/92 incident at Sequoyah Fuels plant in Gore, Oklahoma.

If you have additional questions you may reach me at 405-271-6177.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to be of continuing service to the NRC.

Sincerely,

Lynn V. Mitchell, M.D., M.P.H.

LVM dg

Information in this record was deleted
in accordance with the Freedom of Information
Act, exemptions 6, 7C
FOIA- 93-95

9401250074 930517
PDR FOIA
HUGHES93-95 PDR



The
University of Oklahoma
Health Sciences Center

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE
College of Medicine
Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT 3/31/93:
RELEASE OF NITROGEN DIOXIDE
SEQUOYAH FUELS
GORE, OKLAHOMA
11/17/92

Contact was made from Linda Kasner, NRC representative, March 1993 for follow-up of individuals discussed in the initial report with medical symptomatology that they related secondary to the nitrogen dioxide exposure from the Sequoyah Fuels Plant, Gore, Oklahoma on 11/17/92.

At Ms. Kasner's request, Dr. Robert Fox of Waggoner, Oklahoma was contacted and the following information was reviewed with Dr. Fox. He has continued to provide ongoing care to some of the individuals who had been detailed in the initial report and follow-up was accomplished concerning those individuals. That information follows:

1. [REDACTED] an employee of Jeffers Sand Company, reported an exacerbation of [REDACTED] chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and was treated by Dr. Fox. Dr. Fox reports to me verbally that [REDACTED] has had no residual effect from the release and that [REDACTED] is back to [REDACTED] baseline concerning [REDACTED] pulmonary functions at this time.

2. [REDACTED] Dr. Fox had continued to follow [REDACTED] with ongoing complaints. He reports at this time that [REDACTED] has had "dramatic improvement" however, occasionally has an intermittent headache that is controlled with Tylenol.

3. [REDACTED] also is reported as doing well. However, [REDACTED] also states [REDACTED] has intermittent headaches that are controlled by analgesics.

4. The older Hispanic [REDACTED] that Dr. Fox did not have a current name on, but one of the [REDACTED] who had been hospitalized; reports that [REDACTED] has continued to have headaches and GI complaints. However, Dr. Fox has not been able to find any objective findings associated with these [REDACTED] reports that [REDACTED] has had no history of nausea, vomiting or diarrhea and has not noted an weight objective loss.

5. [REDACTED] The other individual who was hospitalized by Dr. Fox, continues to report persistent headaches, insomnia and residual cystic acne. However, [REDACTED] GI problems have resolved.

All of the individuals have been released from Dr. Fox's care and have been released to return to work with [REDACTED] being the last to be released approximately the first week of March 1993. There is not any scheduled follow-up that Dr. Fox is aware of concerning any of these individuals who he has continued to follow.

Review of the medical literature regarding nitrogen dioxide as was accomplished at the time of the initial report and then reviewed again for this report verifies that these individual's initial complaints were consistent with nitrogen dioxide exposure. However, the primary concern as far as chronic conditions resulting from a one-time exposure are pulmonary in nature. As reported, this initially can progress from a pulmonary edema to a bronchiolitis obliterans profile within a short period of time and these individuals presently do not appear to be experiencing any signs or symptoms consistent with progressive pulmonary disease at this point according to Dr. Fox. In his opinion, they do not show any permanent impairment from their exposure. The continuing symptoms that some are experiencing cannot be verified in the medical literature as a chronic condition resulting from nitrogen dioxide in large scale studies. However, individual variability cannot be ruled out, but the relationship of non-pulmonary symptoms would come into question at this point. It appears that the individuals cared for by Dr. Fox have all stabilized to the point of release to return to work. It is hopeful that no further medical problems would come to light at this point and that is expected and consistent with what would be anticipated concerning what is known concerning nitrogen dioxide.

If I can be of further help concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Lynn V. Mitchell, M.D., MPH

LVM:pg