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Document Title	INITIAL SUBMISSION: LETTER FROM ELF ATOCHEM NORTH AMERICA, INC TO USEPA REPORTING FATALITY DUE TO MISUSE OF CHLORODIFLUOROMETHANE, DATED 021500		
Chemical Category	CHLORODIFLUOROMETHANE		

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elf.atochem



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February 15, 2000

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Attn: 8(e) Submission

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Dear Sir/Madam:

Elf Atochem North America, Inc. (Elf Atochem) is submitting information related to an incident involving misuse of chlorodifluoromethane (CAS No. 75-45-6) and a fatality to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 8(e).

Nothing in this letter is considered confidential business information of Elf Atochem.

The incident was brought to Elf Atochem's attention when a detective in the Salt Lake County, Utah Sheriff's Department called for technical and health information on chlorodifluoromethane. The detective described an investigation that was being conducted related to the death of a four year old boy. The detective indicated a man had placed his four year old son in a bath tub. He then took a 30 pound cylinder of chlorodifluoromethane, attached a hose to the valve and put the other end of the hose into the water in the tub. He opened the valve and left the bathroom, closing the door. The boy was found floating in the water.

Elf Atochem has also learned that Dr. Todd Gray, the Medical Examiner, certified that death was due to chlorodifluoromethane intoxication. Postmortem toxicology revealed a blood concentration of the substance of 39 mg/l. We have no further information regarding the specific circumstances related to the incident.

We are aware of other reports of fatalities in the literature due to misuse or intentional abuse of chlorodifluoromethane and other chlorofluorocarbons. In one case, a similar postmortem blood concentration of chlorodifluoromethane (71 mg/l) was reported in a 1993 Journal of Forensic Sciences article regarding a death due to intentional inhalation misuse of the chlorofluorocarbon. We are submitting the information regarding this misuse of the substance because we believe the

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We are submitting the information regarding this misuse of the substance because we believe the Agency would expect to be informed.

Further questions regarding this submission may be directed to me at (215) 419-5890.

Best Regards,

Debra Randall
Debra Randall, DABT
Product Safety Manager