



Praxair, Inc.
39 Old Ridgebury Road
Danbury, CT 06810-5113

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MR 269936

8EHQ-0903-15274

September 24, 2003

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Office of Toxic Substances
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, SW
Washington, DC 20460

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2003 OCT -6 PM 2:12

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Attn: Section 8(e) Coordinator

Re: Follow up to January 30, 2003 letter regarding possible adverse health affects to carbonyl sulfide. Case Number 8EHQ-03-15274 Carbonyl Sulfide

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is to follow up our January 30, 2003 letter regarding possible adverse health affects to carbonyl sulfide.

Our Medical Director has made attempts to obtain the contract employee's medical records to review the possibility of an enzyme deficiency that may have caused a reaction to the carbonyl sulfide. Because we have been unable to obtain the medical records, we do not have any additional information to add to this file.

Praxair does not have enough information to reasonably support the conclusion that the subject chemical presents a substantial risk of injury to health or the environment. If more information on this case becomes available, we will inform the agency promptly.

Sincerely,


Joanne Marquis
Manager Safety & Industrial Hygiene



Attachment (January 30, 2003 letter)





Praxair, Inc.
39 Old Ridgebury Road
Danbury, CT 06810-5113

January 30, 2003

Document Processing Center [7407M]
EPA East – Room 6428 Attn: Section 8(e)
Office of Pollution Prevention & Toxics
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460 – 0001

Registered Mail
Return Receipt Requested

Re: TSCA 8(e) Report [Intravascular Hemolysis from Carbonyl Sulfide Exposure]

Dear Sir or Madam;

Praxair, Inc is reporting an episode in which a vendor's employee was exposed to a combination of carbonyl sulfide, hydrogen sulfide and inert nitrogen gas. His exposure lasted from seconds to minutes as he attempted to shut a valve on a cylinder that contained this combination of gases.

He subsequently felt ill, experienced upper respiratory distress, nausea and was hospitalized. Upon admission it was noted he was severely anemic and beginning to undergo renal failure. Subsequent analysis while in the hospital demonstrated that the individual suffered from a case of intravascular hemolysis with acute renal failure as a consequence. We are bringing this information to your attention because, to the best of our knowledge, intravascular hemolysis due to exposure to carbonyl sulfide has not been previously observed.

With fluids, rest and rehydration, he has recovered fully and is back to work.

We feel that this report may possibly be premature as our Medical Director has not yet received the employee's hospital records for review.

We will follow up with your office as soon as these records are received and reviewed.

Please call me at 203-837-2531 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joanne Marquis
Manager, Occupational Health & Product Safety