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Attention: 8(e) Coordinator
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, SW
Washington, DC 20460

(A)

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Ladies and Gentlemen:

Contains No CBI

Subject: Notice in Accordance with Section 8(e): Preliminary Results of a Subchronic Inhalation Toxicity Study of N-Vinylcaprolactam in Rats

BASF Corporation is submitting preliminary results of a subchronic vapor inhalation study of N-vinylcaprolactam (NVC) (CAS No. 2235-00-9) in rats conducted by BASF Aktiengesellschaft, Germany. Following is a summary of results received from the sponsor:

The following abnormalities occurred in the high concentration group (174 mg/m3) only. Clinical examination revealed nasal secretion during the first days of the exposure period and salivation throughout the study during and after each exposure. Body weight development of the male animals was slightly depressed. This was not the case in females. There was a slight increase in leucocyte counts and slight decreases in red blood parameters (RBC, HGB, HCT) in the female animals and small increases in platelet counts in both sexes. Total protein and albumin were slightly decreased and the GSH content of liver homogenate was increased in female animals. At necropsy, a statistically significant decrease in male body weight was found. The absolute liver weight of females and the relative liver weights of both sexes were increased. Histopathologically, centrolobular hypertrophy of hepatocytes was observed in female rats and hyperplasia of transitional epithelium, disarrangement in the epithelium of the dorsal meatus, hyperplasia of basal cells and metaplasia of respiratory epithelium as well as atrophy or focal hyperplasia of olfactory epithelium occurred in both sexes.

All persons handling NVC will be informed of this new information via updated Material Safety Data Sheets. BASF Corporation has not received a report for this study. Any additional information will be forwarded to the Agency.

Please note that this letter does not contain any confidential business information. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (313) 246-6207.

Very truly yours,

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3/16/95

BASF CORPORATION

Edward Kerfoot

Edward J. Kerfoot, Ph.D.
Director, Toxicology & Product Regulations

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