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February 19, 1999

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Document Processing Center (TS-790)
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Attn: 8(e) Coordinator

SUBJECT: VIOLENT SEIZURES RESULTING IN SPINAL CORD INJURIES IN RATS EXPOSED TO HIGH LEVELS OF A C8-11 HYDROCARBON (CAS 68553-14-0) SOLVENT

The following information is submitted under TSCA 8(e), since it may constitute substantial health risk information not previously known to the Administrator.

Following acute inhalation exposure of rats to vapor concentrations of 1500 to 2000 ppm C8-11 Hydrocarbon solvent (CAS 68553-14-0), sudden violent seizures were observed that in some animals resulted in traumatic injury. Injury was demonstrated by spinal cord and surrounding tissue lesions and the clinical presentation of hindlimb paralysis. The 4-hour LC50 for this solvent (marketed as Cypar™ 9) is 2062 ppm.

The relevance of this information to humans is not understood as the exposure levels are just below the LC50. Shell's hydrocarbon solvent Material Safety Data Sheets have reflected the possibility of seizures subsequent to exposures to high vapor concentrations.

This report is filed to provide information EPA may find useful. In no way is it intended as a waiver of any rights or privileges belonging to Shell Chemical Company as the reporting corporation, its agents or employees. The reporting corporation, its agents and employees, reserve the right to object to this report's use or admissibility in any subsequent judicial or administrative proceeding against the corporation, its agents or employees.

This report has been compiled based on information available as of the date of filing. The corporation, its agents and employees reserve the right to supplement the data contained in this report, and to revise and amend any conclusions drawn therefrom.

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CONTAINS

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This report contains no Confidential Business Information.

The following person should be contacted if you have questions or a[illegible] for discussion

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Very truly yours,

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WH/kd

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