



UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE
P. O. BOX 2108
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

726816

R

IN REPLY REFER TO:
OCC:RLH

October 8, 1965

WAF
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Phillips Petroleum Company
Atomic Energy Division
P. O. Box 2067
Idaho Falls, Idaho

Attention: Mr. L. L. Leedy

Subject: PURCHASE ORDER NO. C-3357 - METHYL IODIDE PROCUREMENT

Dear Mr. Leedy:

It is requested that you provide Tracerlab with certain additional information concerning the rejected shipment of methyl iodide. Mr. Hames of our Office of Chief Counsel has discussed with your Mr. Ferguson a proposed letter to Tracerlab.

Please provide me with a carbon copy of your letter as dispatched.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Erickson, Director
Contract Administration Division

cc: J. P. Lyon

REPOSITORY INEL
COLLECTION OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL SUBJECT FILES
23377, JTCB 674E CCA
BOX No. FILE: SAFETY-16 IODINE RADIATION EXPERIMENT
PURCHASE ORDER No. C-3357
FOLDER METHYL IODIDE PROCUREMENT

1185637

DRAFT OCC:JXC:fw 10-8-65
RLH

[Handwritten signature]
10/8/65

Tracerlab, Inc.
1601 Trapelo Road
Waltham 54, Massachusetts 02154

Attention: Mr. Joseph Rosenberg, Manager
Technical Products Division

Subject: Purchase Order No. C-3357

Gentlemen:

In furtherance of our teletype to you dated _____,
and pursuant to the request of the Idaho Operations Office of the
Atomic Energy Commission, there is set forth below certain additional
information supporting the basis for our rejection of the radioactive
methyl iodide shipment.

1. There was indication of fire polished openings in the seal of at least one ampule. There may have been such openings in other ampules but this could not be definitely established since some seals were broken. All of the ampules had small, usually jagged openings near the top of the seals or fire polished openings indicating the ampules were never sealed.
2. Carbon deposits in the seals of all ampules were evident. Thus, the seals were unusually fragile and thin. (See the four attached photographs.)
3. The polyethylene bottles in which the ampules had been placed were capped; however, only one of the caps was tight. The four remaining bottles were loosely capped and two of the caps appeared to be cross-threaded.

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4. One of the ampules was empty when unpacked and the other four contained liquid in amounts varying from about one-half to about five ml. Shortly after unpacking all of the liquid in the ampules evaporated.
5. Measured thyroid depositions established that the shipment was leaking radioactive iodine prior to being loaded aboard the UAL cargo plane at Newark, New Jersey airport on September 9, 1965.

Pursuant to your teletype of _____, we are retaining the containers for your inspection. Mr. D. B. Holzgraf of Union Carbide inspected the containers and discussed this matter with AEC and Phillips' personnel on October 6, 1965. Should you or your representative be in this area, we would be pleased to discuss this further with you as well.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures:

Photographs (4) 8 x 10 Phillips Petroleum Company
Nos. NRTS-68 4732, 4754, 4743 and 4731

cc: Union Carbide, w/o encls.

ATTN: Mr. P. M. Stier

P. O. Box 324

Tuxedo, New York 10987

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Read to and approved by H. Anselone 10/8/65

DRAFT OCC: JXC:fw 10-8-65

RLH

Tracerlab, Inc.
1601 Trapelo Road
Waltham 54, Massachusetts 02154

Attention: Mr. Joseph Rosenberg, Manager
Technical Products Division

Subject: Purchase Order No. C-3357

Gentlemen:

Rec'd from RLH on 10/8/65 with request that Ph. send to Tracerlab if no response. Letter from WAE requests that letter discussed by RLH and one be sent. HJA 10/8

In furtherance of our teletype to you dated September 23, 1965, and pursuant to the request of the Idaho Operations Office of the Atomic Energy Commission, there is set forth below certain additional information supporting the basis for our rejection of the radioactive methyl iodide shipment.

1. There was indication of fire polished openings in the seal of at least one ampule. There may have been such openings in other ampules but this could not be definitely established since some seals were broken. All of the ampules had small, usually jagged openings near the top of the seals or fire polished openings indicating the ampules were never sealed.
2. Carbon deposits in the seals of all ampules were evident. Thus, the seals were unusually fragile and thin. (See the four attached photographs.)
3. The polyethylene bottles in which the ampules had been placed were capped; however, only one of the caps was tight. The four remaining bottles were loosely capped and two of the caps appeared to be cross-threaded.

4. One of the ampules was empty when unpacked and the other four contained liquid in amounts varying from about one-half to about five ml. Shortly after unpacking all of the liquid in the ampules evaporated.
5. Measured thyroid depositions established that the shipment was leaking radioactive iodine prior to being loaded aboard the UAL cargo plane at Newark, New Jersey airport on September 9, 1965.

Pursuant to your teletype of Sept. 20, 1965, we are retaining the containers for your inspection. Mr. D. B. Holzgraf of Union Carbide inspected the containers and discussed this matter with AEC and Phillips' personnel on October 6, 1965. Should you or your representative be in this area, we would be pleased to discuss this further with you as well.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures:

Photographs (4) 8 x 10 Phillips Petroleum Company
Nos. NRTS-65 4732, 4754, 4743 and 4731

cc: Union Carbide, w/o encls.

ATTN: Mr. P. M. Stier
P. O. Box 324
Tuxedo, New York 10987

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