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REPLY TO: ALTON

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MAR 16 1990
REME SECTION

March 7, 1990

John P. McDonald
United States EPA
Superfund Enforcement Section
726 Minnesota Ave.
Kansas City, KS 66101

30306945



Superfund

RE: First Information Request Silak/Interchem Site in Alton, Iowa

Dear Mr. McDonald:

In response to "First Information Request" received February 9, 1990, from the Kansas City U.S. EPA Office, Attorney Loren J. Veldhuizen of Alton, Iowa, gives this response on behalf of Mr. Arlin N. Pottebaum.

1. The person answering these questions on behalf of Mr. Arlin N. Pottebaum is Loren J. Veldhuizen, Attorney at Law, Box H, Alton, Iowa, 51003.

2. The responses contained herein are limited to the information available to Mr. Pottebaum and his personal recollection of the events described.

3. For each answer herein the pertinent documents are all, to the best information and belief of Mr. Pottebaum, in the possession and custody of the Silak Company which is now controlled by Bloskas enterprises or the Small Business Administration of the United States Government. Mr. Pottebaum has no continuing access to any such documentation and relies strictly upon his personal memory of the events that transpired in the identified time frame - 1980 to present.

4. a. Silak - from 1980 until May of 1984 Mr. Pottebaum was the President, the CEO and the majority shareholder;
b. Interchem - from 1980 until May of 1984 Mr. Pottebaum was the President, the CEO and the majority shareholder;
c. WHB Specialties, Inc. - no relationship (subsequent corporation of Bloskas);
d. DeNova Industries, Inc. - no relationship (subsequent corporation of Bloskas);

5. Mr. Pottebaum still holds an unpaid Note originally drawn for \$60,000.00 for the sale of Silak stock and some personal assets to William H. Bloskas and his associated enterprises. The unpaid balance on that Note is \$55,000.00 and a Sioux County District Court lawsuit has been filed seeking

recovery of the balance of that Note which is personally guaranteed by William H. Bloskas. The site contains personal property belonging to Mr. Pottebaum, including certain storage racks and other contents of the building. Title to the real estate described as "the site" is in dispute and Mr. Pottebaum has a stronger claim to this real estate than any other apparent claimant.

6. Mr. Pottebaum owns a residential property occupied by his family in Hospers, Iowa, on which a \$65,000.00 Mortgage exists and there is probably no equity in that property at this time. Mr. Pottebaum also owns sorted items of machinery and equipment used in his transportation enterprise, but existing indebtedness equals the value thereof. These properties are under security agreement with the Citizens State Bank of Sheldon, Iowa.

7. a. Personal tax returns for this answering party are being assembled and will be forwarded when they become available.

b. All corporate records are in the custody of the SBA or W. H. Bloskas and associates as above noted.

8. Mr. Pottebaum personally supervised and participated in the handling, formulating, packaging, storing, and/or disposal of the indicated pesticides, products and materials.

9. Persons assisting Mr. Pottebaum in the handling and management activities included Roger Lukken and Kathy Dreckman, both of Alton, Iowa. In addition, there were numerous line workers employed by the firm over the years and a list those employees is contained in the Silak records above noted.

10. List of persons or firms who supplied technical grade pesticides brought to the site formulation are: 1) Farnam Companies, Phoenix, Arizona; 2) Loveland Industries, Loveland, Colorado; 3) Bloskas & Associates, Greeley, Colorado; 4) Platt Chemical, Fremont, Nebraska; 5) Kaw Valley Chemical (Don Fox), Kansas; 6) Sianamid Corporation for Melathyon; 7) Elanco for Correll Herbicide - various pesticides; 8) Shell Chemical - various pesticides; 9) as other contacts are recalled that data will be forwarded as supplemental material.

Mr. Pottebaum knows that the corporate records contain a wealth of data relating to suppliers and product handlers with whom Silak and Interchem did business over the years. These included a variety of major and lesser enterprises and he will continue to draw upon his memory to glean additional information which may be helpful.

11. All contract agreements, bills of sale and other documents are in the custody of Bloskas or SBA as above noted.

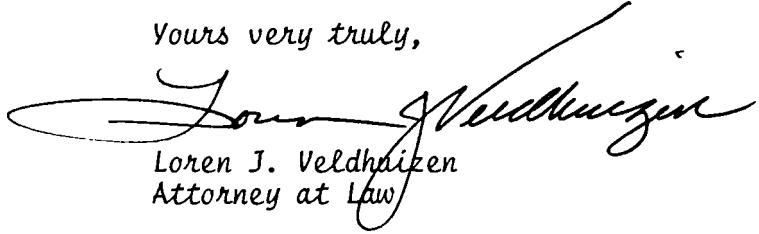
12. Mr. Pottebaum recalls that a large shipment of approximately 20 truckloads of dust product were received on the site after the superfund

cleanup at the Aidex plant. Mr. Don Fox contracted with Mr. Pottebaum to deliver this product for storage on the site at the cost of \$1,100.00 per month. However, although the product was delivered no payments for storage were ever made and the product was removed at a later date without the knowledge or consent of Mr. Pottebaum. It appeared that Mr. Fox hoped to develop the process by which the Atrazine/Lasso dust could be pressed into granule form for application. Mr. Pottebaum purchased a blender which was intended for use in the reconstituting process but the whole arrangement broke down and apparently the owner of the product removed it at an unknown time to an unknown place.

Mr. Pottebaum recalls additional information related to the compound known as toxaphene that came to the site from Phil Moser of Denver, Colorado. Some of this material was resold off the site as ready-to-use product by Mr. Don Fox, as well as being used in the course of business for other products and suppliers.

These answers constitute the current knowledge, information and belief of Mr. Arlin N. Pottebaum and are submitted in compliance with the request made February 9, 1990, by David A. Wagoner, Director, Waste Management Division.

Yours very truly,


Loren J. Veldhaizen
Attorney at Law

LJV/daf

cc: Arlin N. Pottebaum
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