

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING OR CONVERSATION

Confidential
LANL
TA 35/125

Telephone Personal Time: 9:45 Date: 9/29/89

Originating Party: Nick Van Kleeck -E1D
Other Parties: Mike Slosinski 667-5702
LANL

Subject: Discussion of need for respirators with Pan Am workers at TA 35 TSL-125 on 9/27

Discussion: Give him synopsis of 9/27 discussion, outlined below.

I returned M. Slosinski's call of 9/28 to discuss subject above. ~~Explained that I had~~ I had been asked if workers should be wearing respirators. I responded that the levels of contaminants found so far had been very low, but that personally I would wear a respirator as a precaution. Johnny Alvid (GG-MS technician) commented that you get more exposure each time you get up your car than you'd ever get in the pit. I said, ~~that~~ referring to gasoline, that benzene was indeed a known carcinogen, and that the det wasn't ~~as~~ ^{as} complete for ~~many~~ many chemicals. I said I thought they had found TCA in the soil, ~~explained~~ that it was a degreasing solvent, and that ~~from my memory~~ it may have approached levels ^{that EPA considers a health risk}. I explained that the level was considered a health risk ~~from the perspective of eating the soil every day for~~ ^{your} whole life. We discussed why so much effort was being expended on such low levels of contamination, and the general tenor of the conversation was that a lot of money was being spent on a low-risk site, that might better be spent elsewhere.

Also, I believe Steve McKin (LANL) had said "I'd like to get these guys to wear respirators, but they won't."

Conclusions or Agreements: In Discussion w/ backhoe operator, he indicated he had quit earlier, but had come back ^{later when} ~~once~~ offered more pay. He appeared to be dissatisfied with some aspect of his job.

I agreed to go up to LANL after returning from leave to discuss health & safety issues with workers & LANL ~~has~~ personnel.

Distribution

Signed: *[Signature]*

