Not Given to ICI America
MR. J. H. ECKART:

On January 5 I wrote you that we had decided not to put an emetic into Diquat because of the uncertainty as to how effective it would be. I raised the question whether, since we had doubts about its efficacy in Diquat, we should let EPA know about those doubts by a letter written for the Paraquat file. I have since talked in some detail with toxicologists who are familiar with these matters. There is not a unanimous view. Some believe the emetic could do good in some Paraquat cases while it would be less likely to be of value in Diquat cases because of the manner in which Paraquat affects different vital organs. This is not a scientific evaluation but a "gut" feeling by a trained scientist. It does not erase the hazard of taking inconsistent positions on the use of emetic in Paraquat and Diquat but it eases my concern that we might be without a rational explanation if the need arises. My hope is that the changed Diquat label will make this an academic question by deterring any accidental Diquat poisonings and warning of the need for fast treatment if an accident should occur.

GMD: jm

cc: Mr. J. N. Ospenson
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IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)

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