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MAY 3 1978

R. B. SELIGMAN

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INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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to Carl Holtzman
Hay

To: Dr. P. A. Eichorn
From: W. F. Gannon
Subject: 210Po Manuscript

Date: May 30, 1978

I have read the Jenkins manuscript entitled "Naturally Occurring ²²²Radon Daughters in Tobacco and Smoke Condensate." This project was begun when I was manager of the Chemical Research Division. However, since that time I have had some concern as to whether the results of this work should be published. These doubts remain. The Martell controversy seems to have dimmed in the public eye. To publish this work now might resurrect the whole issue. I feel this is particularly true in light of the fact that we have verified published findings with regard to both soluble and insoluble radioactive particles in the mainstream smoke. The fact that we have shown the levels to be 2-4 times lower than Martell's work indicates does not mitigate the overall conclusion. Further, cellulose acetate filters do not remove any appreciable quantities of the insoluble fraction and only 50% of the soluble fraction. If we could show that there is a threshold value below which no physiological damage could possibly occur, then I would have fewer qualms about publishing this paper. However, this issue remains moot and the fact that we admit that Martell was essentially correct could be damaging.

Section H entitled "Source of Deposited ²¹⁰Pb" is also disquieting. It states that Walsh reports higher levels of ²¹⁰Pb and ²¹⁰Po in the lungs of cigarette smokers and that these levels may be due to reduced lung clearance in smokers. Since I have not read the Walsh paper, I find the whole section confusing and perhaps harmful to the cigarette industry image.

In conclusion, I feel that the issues that I have cited are of sufficient magnitude that Dr. Seligman and the Directors should consider seriously whether this paper should be published at this time.

WFG

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cc: Dr. R. B. Seligman
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