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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
GENERAL COUNSEL

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Counsel for Ethyl Corporation

Dear Bill:

I am writing to memorialize the terms under which EPA has agreed to commence discussions between the Ethyl Corporation ("Ethyl") and EPA on MMT health effects testing.

The basic objective of discussions between Ethyl and EPA scientists will be to develop expeditiously a set of mutually agreeable testing requirements for MMT, in order to identify the data to be required under the new rule implementing CAA Sections 211(b) and 211(e), and which EPA has decided to require for a future waiver application under CAA Section 211(f)(4) (as construed by EPA in the recent waiver decision). However, by agreeing to participate in such discussions, Ethyl does not thereby waive any argument, including any right it might otherwise have to challenge and seek appropriate relief from the Agency's denial of its waiver application, or the Agency's denial of registration for unleaded gasoline, for HiTEC 3000.

The additional testing described by the EPA Office of Research and Development ("ORD") in its MMT Information Needs Documents will be the starting point for discussions to develop appropriate Alternative Tier 2 data requirements for MMT, regardless of whether or not there is any corresponding Standard Tier 2 requirement. For each of the endpoints expressly addressed by the ORD documents, the Agency intends to impose Alternative Tier 2 data requirements in lieu of any Standard Tier 2 data requirements for that endpoint which would otherwise apply.

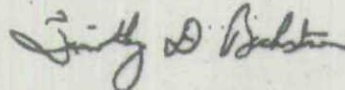
With respect to any endpoint not expressly addressed by the ORD documents, the burden will be on Ethyl to evaluate the suitability of the data presently available to meet Standard Tier 2 requirements. Ethyl may if it wishes propose Alternative Tier 2 requirements for such endpoints, and EPA will consider and discuss any such proposal in good faith. However, Standard Tier 2 requirements will continue to apply for such endpoints unless and until EPA agrees to adopt Alternative Tier 2 requirements.

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After Ethyl and EPA scientists have completed their dialogue concerning MMT testing requirements, EPA will prepare and transmit to Ethyl a formal notice stating the Agency's intention to impose Alternative Tier 2 requirements and describing each such requirement. The notice will reflect all agreements which have been reached between Ethyl and EPA scientists, and approved by responsible EPA officials, and will set forth the Agency's position concerning any testing issues on which Ethyl and EPA have failed to reach agreement. EPA will then adopt final Alternative Tier 2 requirements pursuant to the procedures set forth in 40 CFR 79.58(c). Once all data requirements for registration have been duly established, EPA will not require submission of any additional health effects and exposure data as part of a new waiver application.

Based on the terms outlined in this letter (which I understand that Ethyl has agreed to accept), I anticipate that constructive discussions between Ethyl and EPA scientists will commence promptly. Please contact me at (202) 260-7517 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Timothy D. Backstrom
EPA Counsel