



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

DEC 5 2000

OFFICE OF
PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

Arnold P. Wendroff, Ph.D.
Mercury Poisoning Project
544 Eighth Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215-4201

Dear Dr. Wendroff,

This letter is in response to your letter addressed to EPA Administrator, Carol Browner, dated 10/8/00, concerning indoor mercury spills from mercury containing devices.

The EPA is aware of the potential for environmental release and human exposure that may occur from the improper use of mercury manometers or spills resulting from replacing gas regulators, as described in your letter. I would like to inform you that the Agency is currently considering appropriate actions to address these mercury spills. The Agency, through its Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxics Initiative has identified as a priority, the need to ensure that professionals using mercury containing devices are adequately trained regarding proper handling, cleaning, storing, and proper procedures for cleaning spills. This effort will also emphasize using non-mercury alternatives.

We thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Vlier Moos".

Linda Vlier Moos, Associate Director
National Program Chemicals Division



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Department of Environment

William F. Abolt
Commissioner

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December 29, 2000

Arnold P. Wendroff, Ph.D.
Mercury Poisoning Project
544 Eighth Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215-4201

Dear Mr. Wendroff:

I am writing in response to your letter to Mayor Daley dated December 14, 2000. All of the materials you sent have been distributed to the appropriate Department of Environment staff for review.

The Department of Environment was involved in overseeing the recent inspections relating to mercury contamination from gas pressure regulators. While this latest issue has been resolved, I appreciate the new information on possible alternative sources of mercury contamination. The Department of Environment will consider this information in dealing with future mercury contamination issues.

Thank you again for bringing this important matter to my attention.

Sincerely,

William F. Abolt
Commissioner

WFA/ADH/ajd

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