



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT RESEARCH LABORATORY
CINCINNATI, OH 45268

November 16, 2000

OFFICE OF
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Roger D. Masters
Research Professor of Government
Dartmouth College
Department of Government
6108 Silsby Hall
Hanover, New Hampshire 03755-3547

Dear Professor Masters:

We have received your letter dated September 27, 2000, requesting empirical scientific data we may have on the health effects of fluosilicic acid or sodium silicofluoride and manganese neurotoxicity.

To answer your first question on whether we have in our possession empirical scientific data on the effects of fluosilicic acid or sodium silicofluoride on health and behavior, our answer is no. Health effects research is primarily conducted by our National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL). We have contacted our colleagues at NHEERL and they report that with the exception of some acute toxicity data, they were unable to find any information on the effects of silicofluorides on health and behavior.

In answer to your question on empirical information we may have on manganese neurotoxicity, NHEERL scientists forwarded to us several manuscripts with reference sections that contain information on the neurotoxicity of manganese. These are enclosed for your information.

I apologize for the delay in responding to your request and hope you find the enclosed information useful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert C. Thurnau".

Robert C. Thurnau, Chief
Treatment Technology Evaluation Branch
Water Supply and Water Resources Division

Enclosures