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RRB/pr

7th October 1991

Dr C.J.P. de Siqueira - Souza Cruz, Brazil
 Dr P. Dunn - ITL, Canada
 Dr J.S. Wigand - B&W, USA
 Dr E. Kausch - BATCF, Germany

c.c. Prof. Dr E.R. Rittershaus BATCF, Germany

I enclose a number of documents for your consideration. These would have been discussed at the RPG Meeting. In its absence could you please telephone or write your comments.

1. Draft 1992 FRC Work Programme

This draft programme is an evolution of that agreed at the RPG meeting a year ago. As far as possible it includes suggestions made at the review meetings with ITL and BATCF in June and from various discussions between FRC and CAC scientists.

This document also includes proposed effort allocation in the different work areas (penultimate page in the document). The total net effort (57.4 man years, including all support services) is virtually the same as in 1991. (The 1991 details are given at the end of the 1991 FRC Work Programme).

Could you please let me have your comments and suggestions on this programme by 6th November, or earlier if you consider that any major changes are needed. In particular, could you let me know any areas which you feel we should not be doing, any areas which are not covered, and any areas which need changing. The final version will then be produced in November and issued in early December.

2. Paper on the use of micro-organisms

In principle, micro-organisms can be used to modify tobacco and much work has been done in the past within the BAT Group. This was recently reviewed by W.D.E. Irwin and the review has been issued as a report.

Should the BAT Group, and the FRC in particular, engage in further research in this field? My own view is that we should not turn to micro-organisms until the current programme on enzyme and chemical treatment is complete.

Continued....

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3. Project FUSE

We now need to get a definite input on how much further to take this concept. Therefore I enclose some specific milestones on our proposals for this project for 1992. Do you agree, have you any alternative proposals, or should we not continue with the concept?

4. Degradability of cellulose acetate filters

Following discussions with BATCF on this project, work has been done to assess whether it is practically possible to get a filter to degrade into individual fibres. The enclosed note gives a summary of the findings, together with proposals for future work. A more detailed report will be issued shortly. Should we proceed with this work? Do you have any alternative suggestions, or specific suggestions on the progress of this work area?

5. ROOT Technology - Decomposition Products

The TSRT has asked the FRC to clarify any changes, particularly in smoke chemistry, resulting from the use of ROOT Technology in Group products. The samples used, and analyses performed, were done after consultation with various CAC scientists. The enclosed note summarizes the findings - a detailed report will be issued shortly. Do you have any comments on the work, or any suggestions for follow-up studies? For example, we could analyse some of the smoke components important from an organoleptic point of view. Further, we could do a more fundamental, statistically-designed study on the effects of ammonia treatment on smoke chemistry, not influenced by specific RT technical approaches. Do you have any interest in these, or other, studies?

6. Short report on ETS Exposure

At an FRC work review with BATCF in June, the importance of this work on ETS exposure was recognised but it was pointed out that the German Verband is also involved in work on metabolites. We have not been able to obtain details of the Verband's work. This short report gives the FRC findings, points out certain possible anomalies, and makes proposals for further work. Do you agree with these proposals, have you any alternative suggestions, or should we leave such work to other organisations such as the Verband?

I look forward to receiving you comments.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Baker

Dr R.R. Baker

Encs.

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