

SRG file

| |
|-------------|
| A. L. HEARD |
| *4 JUN 1988 |
| RE |
| ISS |
| COPY |

Dr. R.E. Thornton

W.D.E. Irwin

WDEI/MM/46D

13th June, 1988

FREE RADICALS IN TOBACCO SMOKE

You have received a copy of Dr. D.A. Matkin's Report RD 2116 on this subject.

This report details Southampton research findings from a work programme to determine the effects on smoke free radical levels of major cigarette design and blend variables. As such it is logically complete within the constraint of the chemiluminescence method used.

Further work is not planned in view of our commitment to identify and control the tobacco precursors of a number of minor smoke components of interest to, for example, Regulatory Authorities. The SRG has determined a list of such components for our work programme. The list does not include free radicals.

However, colleagues in Hamburg believe that free radicals is an area of growing interest, see for example a letter by Dr. E. Kausch and Dr. B. Hauser to Dr. Baker, dated 18/5/88, commenting on a recent conference in Japan.

Given the recent issue of Dr. Matkin's report and Hamburg comments, I should be grateful for guidance on the need or otherwise to consider further work in this area. I believe that any change to our work programme should be effected through the usual SRG mechanism and, in particular, their periodic review of the smoke components of interest to Regulatory Authorities and similar bodies.

W D E Irwin

c.c. Mr. A.L. Heard ✓
Dr. R.R. Baker
Dr. G. Smith
Dr. D.A. Matkin

401018150