

MEMORANDUM

TO: Richard Marcus January 16, 1992  
FROM: James Carey  
RE: AFGE/NEMI Workplace Health Fund IAQ Survey

In response to questions you and Susan raised concerning an American Federation of Government Employee (AFGE) survey, I have reviewed my files and last year's calendar and tried to assemble a sequence of events. This memo will hopefully give you a picture of what transpired.

Plans for the survey were initially conceived late in 1990 as AFGE was gearing up for its workplace health and safety conferences. The survey was intended as a joint venture between AFGE, the National Energy Management Institute (NEMI) and the Workplace Health Fund (WHF). The survey was seen as a logical progression of the Safe Workplace Air Conference (SWAC) study and could serve a variety of public relations and legislative purposes.

*here is  
info  
on it*

Dave Schlein, vice president of AFGE, wanted work to begin planning of the survey immediately following a series of workplace safety seminars that the union's Health and Safety Committee, was sponsoring. The committee, of which Dave is a key player, scheduled the conferences for various regions of the country. He enlisted Alex Willman of NEMI to participate in the indoor air quality portions of the seminars and saw these conferences as a springboard for the survey.

Dave suggested that we meet at the conclusion of these seminars to begin drafting the questionnaire. The last seminar was scheduled to be held in Seattle, WA in mid April, 1991.

Immediately after the final workshop in Seattle, WA, Jamie and I met with Dave, who explained that the WHF was excited about the project, but that he would need to meet with Sheldon Samuels to lay the groundwork. He said Samuels is outspoken and had a definitive direction the survey should take. He said he wanted to take some time to get input from Sturdivant and other AFGE officials as well to smooth out some internal political issues. Dave said he would write a first draft of the survey and would review it with us.

At this time I briefed Martha Rinker on the proposal. I explained to her that Dave had some internal issues related to the survey that he needed to iron out, and as a result, the first

TNWL 0051419

draft of the survey might take him a few weeks to complete. I told her I would brief her weekly on any progress.

Jamie or I spoke with Dave weekly and politely tried to facilitate move the project forward. At our initiation, we met with Dave on August 7, 1991. Dave showed us a first draft of the survey, and said he wanted to brief Sheldon on the project and ask him to review the draft. He suggested we meet with Sheldon after his initial meeting.

*did he?  
not raised at  
push over me?  
what do  
it look  
like?*

Jamie and I met with Sheldon on August 28, 1991. As Dave had predicted, Sheldon did have specific ideas about the survey and said he did not believe questions relating to symptoms of poor indoor air quality should be included in the survey. Sheldon said he and his assistant, Millie Rodriguez, would make further edits on the survey, present it to a panel of experts associated with the WHF and would forward the edited version for us to review.

*why, since  
that time, it  
right at  
purpose.  
the  
survey  
marked &  
sh. was  
advised  
the more  
and so  
to see*

We briefed Dave on our meeting with Sheldon and expressed our concern that responses to questions about sick building syndrome symptoms were integral to the SWAC survey and should be included in the national survey. Dave said he would carry this message to Sheldon.

Early in September, we suggested that Dave call a meeting in order to prod the WHF to conclude its draft of the survey. Dave indicated he was also irked at the delay and set a meeting on September 16, 1991 in his office. Attending the meeting were Sheldon, Millie, Lana Katz, who is Dave's health and safety specialist, Jamie and myself. Sheldon brought draft copies of the survey, which we reviewed at the meeting. Sheldon said he would incorporate the comments from the meeting and forward the drafts to us.

*did the survey  
how field?  
what were  
the  
comments?*

Meanwhile, immediately after the meeting, Dave called and told us that several Social Security Administration (SSA) workers had contacted Legionnaire's disease from a federal office in Richmond, CA, and that many of those afflicted were AFGE members. One of the victims had died. He said he would be preoccupied with this problem but that we should continue to work with WHF.

We maintained pressure on the WHF to complete the draft and received it at the end of September. We forwarded a copy to Frank Powell and asked for his comments. He returned comments to us on November 2, 1992. We then forwarded a copy of the edited draft of the survey to Martha Rinker on November 12, 1992 for her review. On December 8, 1991, we met with Dave, who presented us with his final edits on the proposed survey.

*what did it  
look like  
if so.*

*- On the  
a tip  
what time*

After the draft was sent to Martha, the survey was discussed during several OSHA meetings at TI in terms of it serving as an addendum to be included in AFGE's submission on indoor air quality. Most of the meeting participants agreed that the

*things good  
execution  
bad*

*for the AFGE survey  
not done  
by anyone  
enough time*

survey would serve as a valuable addition to OSHA's record.

On December 13, 1992, we received comments and supplemental language for the survey from Mike Forscey. We incorporated Mike's language in the survey and sent the re-edited version to Dave on December 16, 1992.

Since then Mike spoke to Dave about using the AFGE survey as a model for a second questionnaire to survey federal SSA employees exclusively on the issue of indoor air quality.

*Must anyone  
if it has  
been done  
by whom?*

Meanwhile, I spoke with Dave this week and he is committed to moving swiftly on both surveys. He forwarded to me the draft language that Mike wanted addressed in both the national AFGE and the SSA surveys, and asked if we could have a draft of the SSA survey to him to show AFGE President John Sturdivant at a January 29th meeting.

He agreed that sponsorship and financing of SSA survey had not been discussed in any detail but would need to be addressed promptly. We are preparing the draft of the SSA survey according to his timetable, while other details of the survey were being ironed out. Dave said he was prepared to move immediately on this survey.

Meanwhile, he also said he planned to meet with the WHF this week to conclude discussions on the national AFGE survey. He said he did not foresee any problems and believed we could proceed promptly.

Let me know if you or Susan have additional questions.

TNWL 0051421