Confirmation Regular mail.

Lompoc Factory,
December 28, 1932.

Mr. S.A. Williams,
Vice-President,
General Headquarters.

DUST COLLECTION EQUIPMENT
Your letter December 20th

Our most severe dust problems were as follows:

1. Exhausts from No.1 Cyclones at all three milling units.

2. Spillage around packers.

3. Leakage around both ends of rotary kilns.

4. Dust in bag houses caused by shaking stockings.

The dust exhaust from the cyclones presented a physical hazard by scattering dust over the operations and through the living quarters of Mexican employees, and a nuisance to surrounding property owners. Up until 1930, No.2 Cyclones and occasionally some of the others also exhausted to the air.

In 1930 we installed additional cyclones and baghouse capacity, and returned the exhaust from No.2 Cyclones back into the systems, which left only the exhaust from No.1 Cyclones discharging to the open air. Due to this exhaust being saturated it was not possible to discharge into bag houses.

In the fall of 1931 we installed pipe lines from the exhaust of No.1 Cyclones at No. 2-3 and No.4 systems to a blower at the portal of an old tunnel at the rear of the mills and discharged into a series of old tunnels which came out in Espana Canyon. A water spray was installed at the Espana portal to knock down the dust that did not settle out in the tunnels.

This was highly successful from a dust collection standpoint but the tunnels soon filled up and we could find no practical means of cleaning them out. We then made a connection to No.4 Glory Hole in No.20 Quarry, at the east end of the crude bin in Tunnel "A" and discharged the dust into this glory hole, the exhaust coming out the top of the glory hole in No.20 Quarry. About 2½ tons of dust per 24 hours (when both systems operate) or approximately 15% of the estimated total dust exhausted, settled out in this glory hole and was returned to the mills or wasted to the dump. Due to the reduced velocity of the air exhausting from the glory hole the dust did not carry far, - very little went beyond our property lines, and with our prevailing westerly winds during the spring and summer months it was all removed from our production areas and camps. But during the fall and winter months when we get occasional easterly winds the dust settlement around the production areas is very bad.

In order to improve this condition, in November last we increased the area of the glory hole about two thirds in order to further reduce the velocity of the air and hence increase the settlement to about 5 tons per 24 hours. This was a big improvement

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and settled out the heaviest particles but the light fine particles still exhausted to the air and carried considerable distance.

The next step was to devise some means of trapping these light fine particles with the aid of water. A small experimental water washed rotary screen was installed and a series of tests made which showed that we could thus trap about 5% of the dust from the glory hole exhaust, or about 7 tons per 24 hours. The 41% of dust that goes by, or about 5 tons per day, is so saturated it would not travel any great distance and should not give much trouble.

The approximate combined results are as follows;

Dry dust trapped in glory hole - 5 tons/day.

Wet dust (slurry) caught by screen - 7 tons/day.

Still exhausting to air but highly saturated - 5 tons/day.

Total dust exhaust - 17 tons/day, or about 10% of crude feed.

These figures, therefore, indicate that we can trap approximately 70% of the dust, and the remaining 30% can probably be treated in such manner as will not cause a serious hazard or nuisance.

The tests with the screen are not yet all completed and it will probably be 30 days yet before final recommendations are ready.

Last spring a wooden tower containing water sprays was installed at No.11 Mill to catch the dust exhausting from No.1 Cyclone at that unit. This method is about 50% effective which is considered satisfactory especially now that we are operating that unit so little.

Considerable work has been done in correcting the spillage around the packers and this condition is now about as good as can be reasonably expected. These are admittedly dusty operations and all packers are required to wear respirators.

The leakage around the ends of the rotary kilns has been largely eliminated but further improvement is probable.

In 1930 and 1931 we installed additional ventilators in the bag house which greatly improved the condition there. These are also unavoidably dusty places and the bag house men are required to wear respirators.

We conservatively estimate that the dust hazard and nuisance throughout our operations have been reduced by 75% since 1929.

Attached is a summary of our expenditures in this cause since September 1931, also a rough estimate for the future.

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Mr. S.A. Williams,
Dust Collection Equipment,
12-28-32.

Also attached is copy of instructions issued by the mill superintendent regarding the use of respirators. A record is kept on the personnel card of each employee to whom a respirator is issued. A record is also kept of the men employed in dusty places and the men so employed are rotated at least every six months so their exposure will not be too great.

For the past five years we have made a thorough physical examination of each employee once each year. Arrangements have been made to conduct those examinations semi-annually in the future.

A. CROMWELL
Manager.

AC:AB