

26 July 1971

Dr. John Baldeschweiler  
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Dear John,

I thought you might like to see the enclosed letter to William Ruckelshaus giving my opinion about the current state of our knowledge regarding the toxicology of 2,4,5-T.

I thought that the PSAC report on 2,4,5-T was admirable in many ways but I thought that it did not focus clearly enough on the problem of dioxin accumulation and, especially, on our ignorance concerning the dose-response relationship. Unfortunately, most of the experiments on 2,4,5-T that ~~have been~~ done so far are pretty irrelevant to these two key questions.

For almost a year now Robert Baughman (and chemistry graduate student) and I have been attempting to develop an analytical technique for TCDD able to detect  $10^{-12}$  grams in 1 gram of tissue. I think we are getting close but are not there yet. The low sensitivity of existing analytical procedures makes them useless for studying environmental accumulation of the compound.

When you are next in Cambridge and have some time, would you give me a ring? There are several subjects about which I would like to talk to you.

Best regards,

Matthew Meselson

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