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RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE CHEMICAL CORPS ADVISORY COUNCIL
10-11 JANUARY 1954

As a result of the visit to TVA by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Chemical Corps Advisory Council, it is recommended that:

1. A Site Commander be chosen and placed in authority in this position at once.

EXPLANATION: Qualifications for Site Commander are indicated as follows: He should be an experienced administrator, have a successful background in chemical operations and if possible, broad technical training. This administrator should have the necessary authority to implement decisions made on the site. He should be supported by highly qualified technical leaders in both technical design and operations to whom should be delegated authority to act in their respective fields. The Site Commander should be given sufficient authority to insure maximum utilization of technical personnel on problems related to this plant throughout the Chemical Corps and within TVA and outside contractors insure that duplication of effort is eliminated.

2. The demonstration of operability of the plant be carried on by Chemical Corps personnel.

EXPLANATION: It was pointed out that in view of the fact that TVA must eventually operate the plant and that contractor operation would result in serious delay in both present and future operations, such a step does not appear warranted at the present time. However, it is strongly recommended that full use be made of industrial contracts where such will yield necessary specific information and assistance. In addition to immediately proceeding on the above basis, it is suggested that a number of competent industrial chemical manufacturing concerns be contacted to determine their interest in undertaking a contract with the Chemical Corps for the break-in process together with designing and installation of necessary equipment. These contacts and the responses to them should set the stage for an orderly transfer of plant responsibilities to a contractor if one could be found.

Since an industrial concern might provide more favorable incentives to individuals in the way of pay scales and travel regulations, it is recommended that Chemical Corps policy in these matters be reviewed. The Committee believes that competent personnel in the Corps are available for doing the job but that Government regulations are such that these qualified personnel may find it financially inadvisable to undertake the work even though they are most anxious to help out in this difficult situation.

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4. Design be prepared and the justification for its construction be reviewed for a continuous pilot plant at Site A of such size that results are translatable to a full-size unit.

EXPLANATION: This plant would serve the following purposes: (a) to aid in overcoming operation difficulties on the large unit, (b) to determine operating changes to achieve maximum yield and capacities, and (c) to test materials of construction.

An outside contractor should be selected for the design and construction of this pilot ~~plant~~ plant as it is essential that this activity not interfere with production of the main plant at Site A. Since this pilot plant would not be in operation for at least one year, its recommended use is for solving future problems and resolving the question of how the unit can best be substantially expanded. The pilot plant should more than pay for itself in operating economies and in reducing cost of construction when plant expansion is effected.

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