



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAY 5 1982

OFFICE OF
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

SUBJECT: Initial Response (3/11/82) for Aluminum Phosphide Reregistration,
(with flammability data for aluminum phosphide).

FROM: Edward Brittin, chemist
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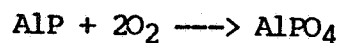
THRU: C. Trichilo, Chief
Residue Chemistry Branch, HED (TS-769)

To: W.H. Miller
Product Manager (16)
Registration Division (TS-767)

In response to data gaps noted for the Aluminum Phosphide Registration Standard, Degesch America, Inc., has submitted flammability data which acceptably satisfy this requirement for aluminum phosphide.

The standard noted that flammability data are normally required only for flammable liquids, but because of the flammable nature of aluminum phosphide flammability data were needed for each end-use product of aluminum phosphide. Note that the U.S. Dept. of Transportation classes aluminum phosphide as a flammable solid.

According to the submitted data the following oxidation occurs:



Noting that this reaction occurs slowly (ca 0.5 hr), even at high temperatures (800°C), it is clear that any flammability hazard associated with products of aluminum phosphide is not due to aluminum phosphide per se. Data concerning the very real flammability hazard associated with phosphine were included in the data reviewed for the standard.

cc: G. Beusch
D. Brooks, SPRD
L. Bhatia, Reg. Div.
Aluminum Phosphide file
R.F.