



CIVILIAN PRODUCTION ADMINISTRATION

~~WAR PRODUCTION BOARD~~

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 1, 1946

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Chemicals Division
Room 4410 SSB

AIR MAIL

Mr. L. C. Herkness, President
Charles Eneu Johnson and Company
Tenth and Lombard Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Herkness:

The domestic requirements of channel black by the rubber industry for the calendar year 1946 have been stated to us by the Rubber Division of CPA at 626,520,000 pounds. This figure is exclusive of the requirements for Canada, Mexico and other export. The export requirements, not including Canada and Mexico, are estimated to be between 15 and 20 million pounds per month for the balance of this year.

Our original production estimate for channel black was just under 600,000,000 pounds for the year which would show insufficient production to meet the requirements. It appears that more efficient operation has developed slightly larger production than anticipated.

Based on information compiled by the National Gas Products Association provided there are no gas problems, during the 1946 year approximately 630,000,000 pounds of channel black will be produced. This will not take care of the known requirements for domestic, for Canada, Mexico and other export. It should be emphasized also that 630,000,000 pounds estimated as 1946 production will be produced only if there are no gas problems. It would seem that we need an additional 150,000,000 pounds at least, to take care of the requirements of channel black.

It is believed at this time that the requirements for 1947 will be at least equal to those of 1946, and with no additional production facilities it seems that the situation will continue tight during 1947 as in 1946.

Yours very truly,

Wells Martin, Chief
Plastics and Protective Coatings
Branch