General Headquarters
February 21, 1955

FEB 22 1955

E. R. WILLIAMS

A. B. Cummins - Research

Asbestos Fiber for Animal Experiments

For many years we have believed that the asbestos fibers 20 to 30 microns in length were the chief cause of pulmonary damage. Recent pilot studies as well as clinical experience in certain areas have indicated that the shorter fibers of sub microns/ less in length may cause scarring of the lungs when inhaled. We are proposing to undertake several animal experiments to investigate this theory and need some asbestos fiber to carry out these studies.

Could you please arrange to send approximately 50 pounds of Ft Grade chrysotile asbestos from our Jeffrey Mine to the following address:

Dr. Paul Gross
Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America
[illegible]
[illegible]
Pittsburgh 13, Pennsylvania

In addition, they will need 2 to 3 rather large pieces of pure fiber 2 to 3 inches in diameter and 1 to 2 inches thick. They propose to chop the rather large chunks of asbestos fiber in a machine and mill them or otherwise slice them at right angles to the fiber in an effort to get very short particles. Two other materials are to be used as controls. I wonder if it would be possible to supply them with a piece of serpentine rock which has no fibers in it about the size of a grapefruit and in addition 2 or 3 pounds of kaolin.

Any help that you can give in supplying these materials to the Foundation as soon as possible certainly will be greatly appreciated.

KENNETH W. SMITH, M.D.

KWS:RB
cc: E. R. Williams - Research
E. L. King, Jr.- Research

Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
asbestosclaims.law/library/11274/1