June 10, 1957

Dr. Kenneth W. Smith
Medical Director
Johns-Manville Corporation
22 East 40th Street
New York 16, New York

Dear Ken:

I have reviewed the slides, two of lung and two of lymph node. The pieces of lung represented in this slide measure 8 x 10 millimeters and 8 x 13 millimeters respectively.

The small lung sections show severe diffuse fibrosis consistent with asbestosis. A few asbestos bodies are present. Only one section shows the presence of cancer. ~~Two~~ Tumor cells are within two small lymphatic vessels. There is no evidence of a primary lung cancer in these sections. The lymph nodes show metastatic adenocarcinoma of the same cell type as is seen in the lymphatics of the lung.

In conclusion, then, limiting ourselves as we must to the meager information obtained from these slides, we are dealing with a metastatic carcinoma in one of the lung sections. There may be a primary metastatic carcinoma elsewhere in the lung. On the other hand, the primary cancer may also be in some other organ for all I know. There is fibrosis in this portion of the lung which is consistent with asbestosis. To what extent this fibrosis is representative of the lung as a whole is a question. I hope these answers are satisfactory. I also hope you will be able to get more material on this case. I am returning the slides.

Sincerely yours,

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Paul Gross, M.D.
Research Pathologist

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