Research and Engineering Center
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Labeling of "MICRO-FIBERS"

There is no evidence that I know of now which indicates that inhalation of "MICRO-FIBERS" is harmful to humans. However, we do know that it has induced significant tissue response in two separate animal experiments in which it was injected in relatively large doses directly into the pleural lining. One of the experiments was carried out with hamsters by Dr. William Smith of Fairleigh Dickinson University and he reported the formation of mesothelioma tumors. The other experiment was carried out with mice by Dr. John Davis of Cambridge University in England and he reported the formation of large spreading "granulomas".

In view of this information, and even though we have no evidence that the fibers are harmful to humans, I recommend that we label our "MICRO-FIBER" packages with the attached legend.

For your information, samples of labels we use on asbestos fiber and flux calcined "CELITE" and the label used by the Cabot Co. on Cab-O-Sil are enclosed.

This subject is to be discussed at the Environmental Health Policy Committee meeting June 15.

F. L. Pundsack

vb
Enclosures (2)

cc: P. A. Martinson - DM
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CAUTION

INHALATION OF MICRO-FIBERS SHOULD BE AVOIDED BY USE OF PROPER INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE PRACTICES.

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CAUTION

This "CELITE" product consists of amorphous diatomaceous silica plus varying percentages of microcrystalline silica.

Inhalation of diatomaceous earth dust may be harmful.

Avoid breathing this dust.

Dust should be kept to a minimum by proper controls.

Respirators or dust masks approved by the U.S. Bureau of Mines for silica dust are recommended.

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