General Headquarters
November 11, 1952

T. H. Eaton - Marrero

Industrial Hygiene Survey
Marrero Plant, Transite Pipe Dept.
October 2

Attached is a copy of the Travelers Laboratory analysis of the industrial hygiene survey samples. Column one, "Count, Million Particles Per Cubic Foot" reflects the quantity of dust particles 10 microns and smaller which are those of hygienic significance. There is no necessary or constant relationship between particles of this size and the amount of visible dust present. The second and third columns represent two techniques in evaluating the asbestos fibre contamination. The third column, "Count, Thousand Fibres Per Cubic Foot", should be used unless there is no entry made. In this event, the figure in column two should be referred to, interpolating in terms of thousand fibres per cubic foot.

Maximum allowable concentrations are the yardsticks used to evaluate a potential hygiene exposure. For dust containing 5% to 25% silica, 10 million particles per cubic foot is the m.a.c.; for dusts over 25% silica, the m.a.c. is 5 million particles per cubic foot. Based on the research at Saranac, our tentative m.a.c. for asbestos is 800 thousand fibres per cubic foot.

In general, the survey indicates excellent control of both dust and fibre exposures. Since the bulk sample analysis indicates free silica content of from 25% to 45%, an m.a.c. of 5 m.p.p.c.f. should be applied to the dust.

Is there any reason why the general room sample at the west end of the building in the vent stack department, sample station TP-18, should be so much higher than the general level indicated elsewhere? What is the source of the contamination in this area?

The other location which needs attention is sample station TP-29, the small fitting lathe. Why is the control at this lathe less efficient than that at the others?

Kindly forward your comments to the questions raised and advise what steps you anticipate for correction of the identified exposure areas.

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