July 11, 1960

City of Los Angeles
Division of Occupational Health
East First Street
Los Angeles, California

Attn: Mr. O. E. Terry

Gentlemen:

Your recent request for information concerning our Marinite products was forwarded to me for reply. I am pleased to advise you of the following data, but request that the information be kept confidential and used solely for the purpose of environmental evaluation.

The four products, Marinite, Colorlith, Asbestocite and Transite contain from 25% to 50% asbestos fibre. In addition, Colorlith and Transite contain approximately 70% quartz silica (sand). The balance of the Marinite material is calcium silicate; the Colorlith is calcium and aluminum silicate; the balance of Asbestocite and Transite is Portland Cement.

Both silica and asbestos fibres are potentially hazardous if exposure to sufficient quantities over long periods of time is involved. The 1959 threshold limit standards published by the A.C.G.I.H. lists 20 m.p.p.c.f. for materials having from 5% to 50% quartz silica. The threshold limit for asbestos is shown as 5 m.p.p.c.f.

We believe that proper material handling methods, good housekeeping practices, and adequate ventilation at the dust source will remove any health hazards that might exist. If engineering control of the dust is impossible, we recommend that a ... Bureau of Mines approved respirator for pneumoconiosis-producing dusts be used and made a requirement of the job.

... can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

H. M. Jackson, Manager
Industrial Health Program

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