NOTED
HF
LJF
ALF
WPSB

January 12, 1954

R. B. English

THERMOBESTOS IRRITATION

I have discussed the question raised by Mr. Demitt's letter of November 30th with Dr. Kenneth W. Smith and am advised by him that we have no record of a dermatitis caused by this product among the people in our Manville Plant where the same is manufactured. Thermobestos is partially alkaline. It is possible that the particular men in question have an allergy to alkaline substances. I would therefore suggest that we advise Reid Hayden, Incorporated along the following lines:

"Subject: Thermobestos Insulation

Gentlemen:

Your letter of November 30th and the enclosed memorandum from Mr. J. H. Rhodes was forwarded to our Medical Department in New York for consideration.

We have now been advised by our Medical Department that examination of the records of the people in our Manville Plant who are engaged in the manufacture and handling of Thermobestos reveals no instance of dermatitis caused by this product.

As you are undoubtedly aware, there is practically no material known that some few individuals are not allergic to. Possibly the people in North Caroline who handle this material have an unusual allergy to the material. Thermobestos itself is partially alkaline and should cause no trouble except where an unusual abnormal allergic situation exists."

Arthur L. Fisk, Jr.

ALF: k
Cc Dr. Kenneth W. Smith
Note to Dr. Smith: Will you please let me have your suggestions on the above. I will delay sending out this letter until I hear from you.

Arthur L. Fisk, Jr.

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