AUG 26 1969

TO: POLICY COMMITTEE

C. B. Burnett
H. M. Ball
J. B. Jobe
K. V. Lindell
A. B. Marchant
A. C. Smith
Ivan Sabourin
F. J. Solon, Jr.
W. L. VanDerbeek
Dr. G. W. Wright

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MINUTES
Policy Committee Meeting
Environmental Health Task Force
August 18, 1969
Large Board Room

W. L. VAN DERBEEK

1. W. L. Vanderbeek reported on progress to date re lowering dust counts below TLV in Manville textile operation.

   The possibility of making asbestos textiles from asbestos paper was discussed. This would eliminate dust-producing spinning and carding operations. VanDerbeek to prepare cost and feasibility data for manufacturing textiles in this manner.

   VanDerbeek suggested that profitability study should be made of Marshville textile operations before a decision is reached on installing costly dust control equipment.

2. VanDerbeek proposed revised corporate Environmental Control Standards. It will be studied and a final draft prepared by a committee consisting of the members of the Environmental Control Sub-Committee, Dr. Wright and Herb Ball.

3. VanDerbeek distributed a report of fiber counts made in the vicinity of a number of Johns-Manville locations, including Manville and Jeffrey.

   K. V. Lindell will announce at the next meeting of QAMA that J-M plans to take dust counts at Thetford Mines.

4. Mr. VanDerbeek and Dr. Wright reported on a program being set up by the Bureau of Occupational Safety and Health of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare to conduct ambient air sampling at selected sites around the United States for the purpose of arriving at Federal asbestos air pollution standards. Dr. Wright has been asked, along with Dr. Selikoff and others, to serve on a committee of experts to review these standards and has agreed to do so.

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Dr. Wright commented that Dr. Selikoff and others are emphasizing electron microscopy as the only valid method of counting fiber, because they contend it is the sub-micron sized particles that cause the most harm. Dr. Wright recommended that J-M undertake animal experiments to test this theory (which he does not believe is true).

Dr. Wright also mentioned that he had seen a copy of the paper on asbestos and health being prepared for the Surgeon General's office by BOSH, and that it said that "there is no evidence at this time that asbestos/cement pipe poses a carcinogenic hazard."

A. B. MARCHANT

1. A. B. Marchant recommended that J-M not get involved with the IUD on a company-wide or industry-wide basis re asbestos/health. It was agreed that J-M should strive to communicate better on a local basis with the various unions on what it is that J-M is doing in the area of environmental control. J-M will identify and solve these problems in its own plants and mines without any outside help or assistance.

   Ivan Sabourin agreed to communicate this decision to Dr. Selikoff. A. B. Marchant will relay it to the union people.

2. It was decided that J-M will offer to take Dr. Selikoff on a tour of our Stockton and Lompoc operations in the near future, and that we will open our Manville Plant to him and others as soon as our present control programs have been completed (in about two months).

DR. GEORGE W. WRIGHT

1. National Gypsum has expressed a reluctance to the general public portion of the New Orleans health study. Present plans call for the in-plant study to begin this year, with the decision whether or not to undertake the general public phase to be made at a later date.

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K. V. Lindell expressed the opinion that QAMA is unlikely to approve the necessary funds for the project this year but might well do so next year.

Mr. Burnett said that Johns-Manville will be willing to pay for the first year of the study whether or not QAMA approves money for the project.

J. B. JOBE

1. J. B. Jobe reported on recent activities of the Insulation Industry Hygiene Research Program.

2. He will report on the status of funding of the program for 1970. Present understanding is that the Asbestos Workers Union and the contractors will provide the entire cost beginning the first quarter of 1970.

F. J. SOLON, JR.

1. F. J. Solon reported on Dr. Selikoff's recommendations re the necessity of animal research to determine the health effects of water passing through asbestos/cement pipe. Dr. Wright will talk to Dr. William Smith of Fairleigh-Dickinson and perhaps others about this.

2. Solon reported on developments to date re the soon-to-begin spraying of the World Trade Center. Mr. Sabourin showed slides given him by Dr. Selikoff showing spraying being done on a new Wall Street building by the same plastering contractor that will be doing the Center.

The decision was made that J-M should not get too heavily involved in the problems associated with the World Trade Center, but that the Policy Committee be kept up to date on developments.

It was brought out that J-M does not favor asbestos spraying as a matter of policy.

3. Solon distributed a chart of upcoming medical meetings.

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4. Approval was given for the printing in booklet form of E. M. Fenner's talk on the J-M Environmental Control Department delivered in May before a medical group in Atlantic City.

F. J. Solon, Jr.

FJS/mvds

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