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ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION
1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square 4, Suite 509
Arlington, Virginia 22202 • (703) 979-1150

DEC 19 1978

15 December 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: MEMBERS (less directors not present at December 13 board meeting)

SUBJECT: Forwarding of corrected cover letter and new pages 1-2 for comments by Dr. Weill on "Estimates of the Fraction of Cancer in the United States Related to Occupational Factors" (Estimates Paper)

It will be recalled that, during discussion of the proposed "open letter" to HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr. at the December 13 board of directors meeting, it was agreed to make a one-word change on page 2. In addition, a typographical omission was noted on page 1 of Dr. Weill's comments. Copies of the corrected letter and pages 1-2 of Dr. Weill's comments are enclosed.

AIA/NA's response to the Estimates Paper was also filed with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as post-hearing comments on OSHA's proposed generic cancer policy (see letter attached). Wide distribution of the AIA/NA "open-letter" to the news media, regulatory agency officials and academic and scientific communities has been accomplished.

Copies of the Association "open letter" and enclosures thereto have been forwarded separately to AIA/NA members not present at the December 13 director's meeting.

B. J. Pigg
Executive Director

Enclosures

bjp/cn

AIA: 14013

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AIA ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square 4, Suite 509
Arlington, Virginia 22202 • (703) 979-1150

809091

15 December 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: MEMBERS (less directors attending December 13 board meeting)

SUBJECT: AIA/NA Comments on HEW-sponsored study, "Estimates of the Fraction of Cancer in the United States Related to Occupational Factors" (Estimates Paper) and forwarding of booklet

At the quarterly Association board of directors meeting, December 13, the enclosed "open letter" to HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr. was approved and hand delivered to his office that afternoon. The letter is the Association's response to the Estimates Paper prepared by the National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

AIA/NA's response to the Estimates Paper was also filed with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as post-hearing comments on OSHA's proposed generic cancer policy (see letter attached). Wide distribution of the AIA/NA "open letter" to the news media, regulatory agency officials and academic and scientific communities has been accomplished.

New subject - The enclosed booklet on "The Control of Asbestos Dust" is invited to your attention. It was prepared by the Asbestos International Association and provides recommended control procedures particularly for countries where no statutory regulations exist.

B. J. Pigg
Executive Director

Enclosures

bjp/cn

bcc: Executive Committee

JHM140[illegible]

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ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION
1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square 4, Suite 509
Arlington, Virginia 22202 • (703) 979-1150

13 December 1978

Mr. Tom Hall
OSHA Office of Consumer Affairs
Room N-3635
U.S. Department of Labor
Third Street & Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

Re: Post-hearing comments on OSHA's Proposed Generic Cancer Policy

Dear Mr. Hall:

The Asbestos Information Association/North America was a participant in the scheduled public hearing on OSHA's proposed generic cancer policy. An oral presentation was given by Harrison B. Rhodes, Dr. Engineering Sciences, Chairman, AIA/NA Standards Advisory Committee, on July 19, 1978. It is our understanding that the post-hearing comment period for participants has been extended to December 19, 1978.

On September 15, 1978, the National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health filed a study, "Estimates of the Fraction of Cancer in the United States Related to Occupational Factors," as part of the record on the generic policy proposal.

It is requested that this Association's enclosed comments on the Estimates Paper be made a part of the OSHA proposal record referred to above.

Sincerely yours,

B.J. Pigg
Executive Director

Enclosure

bjp/ws

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September 20, 1978

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Robert H. Mereness

(The following statement was issued today by the Asbestos Information Association/North America, an incorporated, non-profit organization of firms engaged in the manufacture or processing of asbestos-containing products and in the mining and milling of asbestos fiber in North America.)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, D.C. (Sept. 20, 1978) -- The Asbestos Information Association/North America has been requested by its membership and by others to comment upon the statement made before the AFL-CIO National Conference on Occupational Safety and Health on September 11 by HEW Secretary Califano concerning the incidence of cancer which may be expected in the future as a result of past exposures to asbestos fibers. The paper upon which the remarks of the Secretary were based was made available to us only yesterday, and we have not yet had an opportunity to review it in detail. It may be said, however, based upon a first reading, that the paper is simply another extrapolation, stated in statistical terms, from the same data which has been available to the international scientific community for some period of time.

Scientific advisors to the AIA/NA now are engaged in a study of the report referenced by Secretary Califano and comments will be forthcoming from the Association upon completion of the

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19 December 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: MEMBERS

SUBJECT: State-by-state Survey of AIA/NA Members Located in the United States

As you know, an aggressive "Asbestos Public Awareness Campaign" was launched last April by HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr. The National Cancer Institute was assigned responsibility for implementing this effort. The information program by NCI has been directed principally at doctors and past and present asbestos workers. Extensive coverage of the program has been afforded by the news media, much of which accompanied by distortion and sensationalism.

NCI's program has included, but not limited to, the following: (1) spot public service announcements on radio and TV stations; (2) mailing of flyer entitled "About Asbestos" to over 30 million persons with their social security checks; (3) inclusion of articles in newsletters reaching military and federal retirees; and (4) preparation and mass distribution throughout the country of a number of pamphlets on asbestos. It may be expected that a government-sponsored asbestos information program will continue over the next several months. An ambitious OSHA-NCI plan is currently under active consideration and approval is likely in the near future.

Possible Association and/or member firms' response to the above actions has been discussed at recent directors meetings. While the consensus of members has not endorsed an "in kind" counter AIA/NA public relations program, it has been agreed that there are some initiatives which might be undertaken within current Association resources that could be advantageous to industry, e.g. providing certain members of Congress AIA/NA educational-informational materials. It would, therefore, be beneficial to develop an asbestos constituency by state and congressional district where there is an asbestos manufacturing facility or mine.

Accordingly, members are requested to complete the enclosed survey form and return it at the earliest convenience.

B. J. Pigg
Executive Director

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