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April 17, 1968

Mr. Clifford L. Sheckler
Manager
Occupational Environmental Control
Johns-Manville Sales Corporation
22 East 40th Street
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Cliff:

In the council meeting of April 3, 1968 held in your conference room, it was agreed that I would advise you by April 19, 1968 of National Gypsum Company's position relative to the printing and distributing of the booklet entitled "Recommended Health Safety Practices."

Our position, after discussions with our legal, sales, production and industrial relations departments, is that we strongly oppose the publication and distribution of the booklet.

Our reasons are:

1) No risk has been shown to the general public from exposure to asbestos cement products manufactured for use in the building and construction industry.

2) The proposed booklet points to dangers to health from the handling of corrugated and flat asbestos sheets when there is no scientific evidence of such dangers.

3) The booklet creates fear in the minds of buyers, users, and workers without justification. These fears would be damaging to the entire industry.

We agree with the J-M position paper of January 15, 1968, subscribe to the concepts of the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health in Montreal, and are extending full cooperation to U. S. Public Health Service in its study of asbestos in processing plants.

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This strong opposition to the publishing of the booklet has the full concurrence of the top executives of our company, including the Chief Executive Officer.

Cliff, we would be most willing to meet with you and other asbestos cement manufacturers to discuss Health and Environmental problems relative to our industry, at any time.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL GYPSUM COMPANY

Frank H. Zimmerman
Director of Safety

FHZ:mp

THE KOZY KORNER

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