

Dr. C. U. Dernehl

31 March 1969

New York Office

Mr. N. H. Ketcham
Technical Center

Safety Precautions -
Asbestos Fibers

Dear Carl:

The attached letters are self-explanatory. As you can see I have advised Texas City people to contact us rather than the government. I thought perhaps one of you might wish to contact the other recipient's of Mr. Bonin's letter in this regard.

Cordially,

R.E. Joyner, M.D./eb
Encls.

UCCTXC 06805

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
Consumer Products Division
Quality & Specifications
P. O. Box 6056
Cleveland, Ohio 44101

March 18, 1969

Messrs. W. T. Barker - So. Charleston
W. W. Bedford - Torrance
G. P. Borst - New York
L. W. Bratt - So. Charleston
G. O. Bunch - Whiting
W. G. Cornell - Whiting
J. D. Enright - Whiting
J. E. Finch - Texas City
A. D. Haddix - So. Charleston
W. G. Hennessey - Cleveland
W. E. Knight - Torrance
J. McMaster - Carteret
R. E. Merrill - Torrance
E. M. Morgan - New York
B. W. Pratt - Texas City
W. O. Price - Carteret
W. J. Suiter - Texas City
C. J. Van Eman - Texas City

Subject: Safety Precautions - Asbestos Fibres

Recently one of the canning locations asked if any safety precautions are needed when handling Asbestos Fibres. We wrote Johns-Manville for this information and the following is a direct quote from their letter of March 11, 1969:

"Regarding safety precautions needed when handling Asbestos Fibres, let me quote extracts from letters written by Johns-Manville Environmental Control Dept.:"

'"Respirators for protection against fiber dusts should be Bureau of Mines approved for protection against toxic dusts, not significantly more toxic than lead (Bureau of Mines Schedule 21A or 21B).

Our own plant people seem to prefer MSA DUSTFOE 77. Other manufacturers of approved respirators include American Optical and Willson."'

'"I understand that your company wishes to take every precaution to insure the safety of your workers engaged in the fabrication of materials containing asbestos.

The best precaution is mechanical dust control equipment designed to maintain the airborne concentration of asbestos fibers below the Threshold Limit Value established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. This group establishes TLV's for airborne concentrations of different toxic substances which represent conditions under which it is believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed, day after day, without adverse effect. The newly proposed TLV for asbestos fiber is two million particles per cubic foot (2 MPPCF) or twelve fibers per cc (12 f/cc).

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Sub: Safety Precautions - Asbestos Fibres

Asbestos fiber dust concentrations are measured in accordance with techniques established by the United States Public Health Service. The determination of MPPCF requires collection of samples by an impinger and a subsequent particle count under a 100 power light microscope. The f/c count is determined by membrane filter coupling and subsequent fiber count under a 430 power light microscope. These techniques are described in detail in literature available for the U.S.P.H.S. If additional information as to sampling and analysis is required, it can be obtained from:

Mr. Howard Ayer
Chief Environmental Activities
Field Studies
Occupational Health Program
Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare
1014 Broadway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

A competent, experienced dust control engineer should be employed by your concern to design the dust control system, including the hoods, duct work, fan and collector. It is essential that your dust control system employ a high efficiency dust collector to prevent external atmospheric dust contamination."

P. G. Bonin

PGB/mm

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* Letter and attachment. All others, letter only

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