

21 July 1978

Mr. Edmund M. Fenner
Director, Environmental Services
Johns-Manville Corporation
Ken-Caryl Ranch
Denver, CO 80217

Dear Ed:

As you requested the following items are enclosed for your information:

1. Draft of letter to our employees at King City asbestos plant.

2. Briefing package for our field representatives (less attachments which you have.)

We are not planning a general mailing to our customers but plan to respond to questions when they arise. I would be interested in receiving any comments you may have. You may do what you like with these with the only reservation that in the very unlikely event J-M would quote or reference UCC directly we would like your prior review.

Regards,

H. B. Rhodes, Ph.D.
Technology Manager,
Union Carbide Corp.

A10330

DRAFT

Plant Manager and Division Medical Director to King City Employees

On April 26, 1978 Mr. Joseph Califano, Secretary of HEW, discussed possible health risks to workers who have been heavily exposed to asbestos in the past. At that time the Secretary announced a campaign by the Government to alert former shipyard workers and others who may have been exposed in the past to excessive quantities of asbestos dust, that they may be at risk of developing asbestos-related disease and should see their doctors.

We are writing you today because the initial phase of the governmental information campaign will start in late July and run for about four weeks. It features extensive radio and TV spot announcements plus an information card to be included in all Social Security checks sent out next month. Copies of the radio announcements are attached.

A 10301

As you can see, these spot announcements do not accurately reflect the spirit of Mr. Califano's statements and give the impression that <u>any</u> exposure to asbestos constitutes a serious health risk. We are particularly concerned that the campaign may cause you unnecessary and exaggerated fears for your own safety and for that of your families.

It is well established in the medical literature that the risk of asbestos-related disease is directly dependent on the severity of exposure. When the King City Plant was built in 1963, there was an awareness of the need to control exposure to asbestos dust. Substantial dust control equipment was included in the original plant and major additions of control equipment have been made over the years. We have made every effort to comply with and, where practicable, to keep exposures below the governmental requirements. Mechanical dust control is augmented by careful attention to housekeeping and in some areas by the use of respirators. Your exposure has been controlled throughout the history of the plant at levels far

Office of Cancer Communications/National Cancer Institute
Public Awareness on Asbestos Exposure

Radio Copy
:60

June 21, 1978

FRIENDS

SFX:
Outdoor noises, children playing in distance

WORKER 1: ME AND MY FRIENDS, WE GAVE OUR ALL FOR THE COUNTRY DURING WORLD WAR II.

TEDDY: 33 YEARS LATER, IT TURNS OUT WE HAVEN'T STOPPED GIVING.

WORKER 3: YESTERDAY THE DOCTOR TOLD TEDDY HE'S SICK FROM ASBESTOS DUST.

TEDDY: WE WERE ALL BREATHING IT DOWN AT THE SHIPYARDS. NOW IT TURNS OUT ASBESTOS DUST CAN CAUSE LUNG DISEASE . . . ESPECIALLY IF YOU SMOKE.

ANNOUNCER: MILLIONS OF WORKERS IN PARTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION, MINING, SHIPBUILDING AND AUTO INDUSTRIES HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO ASBESTOS DUST. SOMETIMES IT TAKES 30 YEARS OR MORE FOR ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES LIKE LUNG CANCER TO SHOW.

WORKER 1: WHAT'S THE DOCTOR SAY, TEDDY?

TEDDY: THE DOCTOR TOLD ME ASBESTOS DUST CAN BE VERY DANGEROUS. SO ALL YOU GUYS BETTER GO SEE YOUR DOCTORS TOO.

ANNOUNCER: EVEN IF YOU FEEL GOOD, CHECK WITH YOUR DOCTOR, STOP SMOKING AND GET PROMPT MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR RESPIRATORY ILLNESS.

WORKER 1: I DUNNO TED, WHY SHOULD I GO LOOKING FOR TROUBLE?

WORKER 3: I FEEL GREAT TEDDY.

TEDDY: SO DID I.

LIVE
ANNOUNCER: (ASBESTOS ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER.)

A10883