

12-1-72

ASBESTOS WORK PRACTICES PLANT 512 & 511 CONSTRUCTION

511 Field fabrication has	15	employees
511 Fabrication Shop has	9	employees
	24	Total employees work asbestos
Central Insulation has	13	employees - working asbestos
Maintenance areas have	24	employees - working asbestos
	61	Total - In-plant asbestos work force

Does not include supervisory personnel.

Prior to January 1, 1973 -- application of asbestos containing materials is involved mostly in work with tape, and block material. Block materials may be pre-formed or formed on-site.

Old insulation is removed by all field insulators with the intent of salvage and replacement. Reported frequency varies from two to 50 per cent among various groups.

Clean-up of work area is generally unacceptable in all areas. Left over waste is saved if considered salvagable. In no case is vacuum sweeping practiced. Wet spray before cleanup is not practiced among any group. 31 per cent claim rough clean by sweeping then hose down for final cleanup. Remaining 69% dry sweep only.

Plastic bags are in use to some degree by 18% of insulators. Waste material from other 82% of work is placed in dumpsters, or dump truck to be transported to land fill. Dump trucks are covered during transport. Dumpsters may or may not be covered.

Engineering methods of protection such as enclosure, isolation, or wind shielding is non-existant. Exhaust ventilation on stationary sawing equipment within the fabrication shops is likely to be acceptable. Dust collection facilities, in conjunction with local exhaust, are adequate. However, means of dust removal for disposal is totally inadequated. This is obviously the greatest single exposure source within the plant.

Portable power equipment such as shaping saws is not in use at any location.

In three of eight areas where insulation work is performed, there are claims of vacuum sweepers being available for use. In no case is a vacuum facility provided and readily available for use.

Personnel employed in cleanup efforts varies with work locations, Some maintenance areas claim 75% cleanup by the insulators, whereas, other areas have 100% cleanup by laborers.

Some individual insulators suspect their greatest chance for exposure to be during unpacking pre-formed insulation. There is no way to escape the liberated dust. This is substantiated by the 40 fiber count measured during the packing job.

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Other workers that have undetermined amounts of asbestos exposure are, dumpster drivers, truck drivers, insulator foremen, landfill heavy equipment operator, and craftsmen working in areas adjacent to insulating jobs.

Asbestos containing materials are in use in the laboratory in the form of: filter aids (100% fibers), column wrapping with tape, asbestos gloves, glass blower workbench top and as heat shields.

Asbestos blankets are used as shielding materials in other areas such as Area V shop and furnace areas. A type filter aid which contains asbestos is still in use at #1 powerhouse and possibly at water treating plants.

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