UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
Chemicals and Plastics

Texas City, Texas

June 14, 1972

To: Messrs. H. B. Coons 526
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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT UC-1077

Subject: OSHA PERMANENT ASBESTOS STANDARD

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a copy of the first permanent standard of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration requiring industrial hygiene-type monitoring of employee exposures to asbestos dust. Within the next few months standards for several other toxic materials will surely follow:

Some of the more salient requirements are as follows:

(1) Employee time-weighted average exposure to asbestos fibers longer than 5 microns shall not exceed 5 fibers per cubic centimeter of air - effective July 7, 1972.

(2) The above limit will be lowered to 2 fibers - effective July 1, 1976.

(3) The maximum ceiling limit at any time is 10 fibers.

(4) Engineering controls shall be used to meet the limits.

(5) Local exhaust ventilation shall be designed, constructed, installed and maintained as per ANSI Z 9.2 - 1971.

(6) Specific hand and powered tools shall be provided with local exhaust.

(7) Wet methods are encouraged.

(8) Spraying, removal or demolition, shall be provided with prescribed respiratory protection.

(9) Compliance may not be achieved by the use of respirators or shift rotation, except as noted.

(10) Special clothing, change rooms, lockers, and laundering shall be provided for any employee exposed above the limit.

(11) Personal breathing zone monitoring is required at intervals not greater than 6 months.

(12) Area type work environment monitoring is similarly required.

(13) Employees, or their representative, shall be permitted to observe monitoring.

(14) Caution signs and labels are required.

(15) Records of personal and environmental monitoring shall be maintained for 3 years and made available to OSHA, NIOSH, and employees.

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(16) Any employee exposed in excess of limits shall be so notified in writing within 5 days of findings.

(17) Preplacement, annual, and termination medical examinations shall be provided or made available at employer's cost.

(18) Medical records shall be maintained for 20 years and be accessible to OSHA, NIOSH, and the employee's physician.

We have 6 months from June 7, 1972 to make initial monitoring determinations. The Industrial Hygiene Laboratory at Texas City is equipped with the required sampling and analytical equipment and technique. We shall schedule this work as required.

I shall be glad to discuss this at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

D. E. Deese
Senior Industrial Hygienist
Gulf Coast Area

DED/eb

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