PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

UC-2415

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

SILICONES & URETHANE INTERMEDIATES
ENGINEERING
SOUTH CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

MEMORANDUM

May 15, 1985

TO: W. E. Ballard
J. C. Cogar*
J. R. Dean
E. O. Harrah*
F. M. Holmes*
D. W. Moody*
B. G. Stump*
[redacted]
W. C. Young*

*Attended Meeting

FROM: D. J. McNeil*

SUBJECT: Use of Asbestos/Non-Asbestos Gasket/Valve Packing Materials

On 5/10/85 the above group met to discuss the use of non-asbestos gasket and valve packing materials.

When the asbestos health concern was first disclosed the South Charleston location made a concentrated effort to remove and discontinue the use of asbestos materials (gloves, insulation, etc.). This policy was also applied to asbestos gasketing and valve packing materials. Therefore, the 514 location began to buy and use other gasketing materials, such as "Blue-Gard" and Garlock 3200. No records were kept on where these materials were used.

It is the E&TS organization's position that there are significant risks involved in the use of these materials. Non-asbestos compressed non-metallic gaskets have been shown to be inferior in chemical resistance and have a lower maximum temperature limit than teflon (Ashbaugh/Moody/Neeley letter of 6/22/82-attached).

Asbestos gaskets are 80% fiber, 10% binder and 10% filler. If the binder is attacked 90% of the gasket is left. The new gasketing materials are 50% fiber, 30% binder and 20% filler. An attack on the binder can result in a catastrophic failure of the seal.

It is also the E&TS and Safety Department's position that asbestos materials can be stored, cut and handled in a safe manner since the fibers are encapsulated in binder.

UCC 015720

The action plan developed by the group was to:

1. Limit gasket and valve packing materials at 514 to

BGS/WEB
-Asbestos
-Grafoil
-Teflon (Gylon-Fawn)
-Elastomers such as Viton, Neoprene, EPR, etc. in low temperature and special services only

Any exception must be clearly identified and monitored with copies going to D. J. McNeil and A. E. Wood. Any exceptions need technically supportable reasons.

WCY 2. Run tests on exposure during handling/cutting of asbestos materials in the 514 shops.

BGS Review operating procedures

JCC 3. Get rid of "other" unacceptable materials

AEW 4. Try to determine where "other" gasketing materials were put in service and the risks involved in leaving them in that service.

AEW/EOH Document service life of "other" materials when equipment with this material is pulled to gather data base for when asbestos becomes unavailable. Replace "other" material with one of the acceptable materials when found.

BGS/
WCY 5. Review and train personnel on accepted "wet down" procedures for handling "failed" asbestos gaskets (failed means that the binder was lost)

Run tests on exposure in handling old/failed asbestos materials.

6. Run organized/well documented tests on "other" materials by contacting the MOC group (AEW) for monitoring.

A. E. Wood will monitor and document these activities. Any additional concerns or questions can be addressed to him.

Thanks for your support,

D. J. McNeil

DJM/sml

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