UC 149-2

UNION CARBIDE

INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

UC-3417

26(g)

CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS • INSTITUTE PLANT P O BOX 2831, CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25330

To (Name) Mr. E. C. Shipley

Bldg. 2009 - Construction

Mr. G. F. Hurley
E. Q. Hull, M.D.

Date 19 March 1979

Originating Dept. Medical Department - Bldg. 23

Answering letter date

Subject Annual Medical Surveillance for Asbestos Workers

On the telephone recently, I told you that employees working with asbestos did not need annual medical surveillance unless they had ten years exposure. This is in error. I am enclosing a copy of the page of the asbestos standard that includes the information on medical surveillance.

As I read the standard, employees that are going to work with asbestos must have a preplacement examination. If they continue to work with asbestos they should be examined annually. If they work with asbestos for 10 years or longer, sputum cytology also is required. To my knowledge the asbestos medical surveillance program conducted by the Medical Department for both Institute Plant employees and Construction Department employees satisfies the requirements of the standard.

In regard to the employees that you told me about who worked with asbestos for several months and who had asked for examination, it is my opinion that annual examinations on these employees is not necessary for the following reasons: Assuming that all of these employees have had preplacement examinations, that requirement has been satisfied. In that they are no longer working with asbestos, they don't need annual examinations as I interpret the standard. However, all of these employees voluntarily will be able to participate in the Institute Plant Medical Department's Multiphasic Health Screening Program biennially which is a more thorough examination than the one required for asbestos medical surveillance. Unless these young employees are continuing to work in asbestos, I see no reason why they should be included in an annual medical surveillance program for asbestos.

The Medical Department expects to start the annual medical surveillance for asbestos workers about 1 May 79. It would be appreciated if you would provide me with a list of all Construction Department employees who are continuing to work with insulation materials, in the sandblasting operation and any other individuals who may be having continuing exposure to asbestos.

Very truly yours,

R. J. Sexton, M.D.
Plant Medical Director

RJS:gh

Enc.

UCC 017202

*Union Carbide trial exhibit UC-3417: R. J. Sexton, M.D. to E. C. Shipley on Annual Medical Surveillance for Asbesto...* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 18179 · Page 1 of 1 asbestosclaims.law/library/18179/1