PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
UC-5076

Calidria

T. P. Norris
W. C. Thurber
J. E. Walsh
KC-File
NF-File
E. J. Kleber

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

By H. B. Rhodes

Date 7/22/74

Full Name	Gypsum Drywall Assoc., International	Interviewed
Address	Washington, D.C.	
Mfrs. of	Drywall Trade Association	

OBJECTIVE

Attend GDCI Safety Task Force Meeting.

OBSERVATIONS

The official group attending and the approximate agenda are attached. About 6 or 7 contractors from the Texas area were also present. The only non-drywall personnel present were Joe Volk, National Gypsum; Richard Entz, U.S. Gypsum; and the writer.

The meeting was basically chaired by Dick Gimer, the GDCI attorney. He reviewed the last meeting with OSHA; their July meeting with Selikoff, and the plan of action to move toward a request for variance. The OSHA regulations were reviewed in detail with emphasis on the fact that they were now in effect.

This led to an occasionally heated discussion on the possibility of getting rid of asbestos right away. Tom Waggoner and Bob Gulich of the California delegation were quite vocal in this regard. Waggoner talked about a West Coast supplier (almost certainly Hamilton Materials) that has a mud he is testing that looked satisfactory. There is another tonnage operation in Arizona with an asbestos-free mud. The comment was made that the contractor should not bow to the whims of the applicator but should take a firmer stand re the mud to be used. Asbestos-free mud should be given a real test not a quick trial. There was also talk of leaning on the manufacturers to provide a timetable for asbestos-free mud.

Joe Volk stated that the major manufacturers had been hard at work on the problem for several years. They had removed asbestos from their sprays and dry plaster products but had nothing that could adequately replace it in the mud. Wet-edge and freeze-thaw stability in the cans were cited as the major problem. He also mentioned that even without asbestos a serious silica nuisance dust problem remained.

Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
asbestosclaims.law/library/19571/1

Dick Entz (U.S. Gypsum) was less pro-asbestos than Volk but confirmed that finding a replacement was not easy. They too have asbestos largely out of their sprays and are trying to eliminate it from all products by 1976 when the two-fiber limit goes into effect. They have "blind" tested a number of formulations and still do not have a good one. He also mentioned an interesting point that even if they had one today it would be several years before the big volume users could be converted across the country due to limitations on raw materials availability.

This calmed the meeting down enough to proceed with the discussion of the GDCI program. Their approach is that the employees are being exposed to a possible hazard of unknown severity. They plan to get enough data to evaluate the hazard in the various parts of the country and apply for a variance A detailed review of all of the places on a job that asbestos dust could be generated was made and the variables affected the levels were explored. Mr. Gimer will work out a check list and a proposed program immediately. A copy of the AIA/NA work practices for the drywall industry was distributed for comment. Mr Gimer continues to impress me as an extremely competent, knowledgeable and well organized attorney. Without him, the GDCI efforts would be badly disorganized.

The California delegation stated that they had the money and manpower and could obtain the equipment. A testing program for their area would be started immediately and results would be made available to the GDCI. They felt that the burden of testing should not fall on any individual contractor.

The meeting ended with a heated discussion of the posture that the GDCI should adopt re Dr. Selikoff and the Unions. Selikoff has prepared a film showing a whole range of hazards in the building trades. It covers a number of other materials besides asbestos. It is scheduled to be shown at the Painters and Allied Trades Union Meeting in September along with a number of wheelchair and stretcher cases to illustrate the points. Selikoff is reported to have stated that anyone who has worked more than six years in the construction industry has suffered irreversible health damage. The meeting is to serve as a kickoff for a big safety compaign with a mobile medical and survey units moving into the field. It is a typical Selikoff extravaganza. The GDCI has been asked to assist in the selection of personnel for physical examinations.

There was a great deal of hostility toward Selikoff, particularly among the California delegation. They had gone so far as to explore the possibility of hiring a full-time medical counsultant but the $200,000 price tag had turned them off. They wanted to have nothing to do with Selikoff or to cooperate in any way.

Leederman and Gimer took the position that lack of cooperation was not going to slow Selikoff down and at least communication should be maintained so they would know what he was doing. No consensus was reached but I got the impression that the California Association would not help select personnel for physicals and the Washington representatives would back off some from their fairly extensive plan to meet regularly with Selikoff.

Added Note:

The writer took the opportunity to meet privately with both Volk and Entz to press the point that UCC had a substantial amount of product committed to supply their needs. They had an obligation to keep us informed well in advance of any substantial changes in requirements. They both indicated that there was nothing imminent but we are undoubtedly going to have to stay in regular contact.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

This a large, existing market and I feel that a substantial effort on our part is warranted to maintain substantial sales. Specifically:

HBR
EJK
1. Sit tight with GDCI until we hear from Gimer re their plans. Cooperate as appropriate and as our resources permit.

TPN
REB
JLM?
2. Serious missionary work at U.S.G. re safe use of asbestos in their plant.

HBR
3. Establish contact with Gulich about mid-September.

HBR
EJK
4. Move forward on a good priority with the pellet and high shear approach for TJC manufacture. This will reduce or largely eliminate in-plant dust for ready-mix, reduce the amount and fiber size of the asbestos in the product, and hopefully, reduce the dust potential in the field.

Typed 8/2/84
dg

V. Items for Consideration (Cont'd.):

h. Remarks concerning meeting July, 1974 with International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades, its Safety Committee and management advisors with Dr. Selikof, Special Guest

BAT

i. Report of meeting scheduled ~~with Dr.~~ Selikof in Washington, D.C. on August 26 and 27, 1974

j. Report of meeting scheduled August 1 and 2, 1974 at Mount Sinai, New York City, by DRYWALL Magazine staff to interview research staff dealing with Drywall Finishing Industry

k. Other items for consideration

VI. Adjournment

GYPSUM DRYWALL
CONTRACTORS INTERNATIONAL

SAFETY TASK FORCE
MEETING

July 22, 1974

Individuals scheduled to attend:	
H. Bartles	Los Angeles, California
V. Cagle	Omaha, Nebraska
J. Coldiron	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
W. DeBord	Houston, Texas
R. Enz (Emtz)	Chicago, Illinois
R. Gimer	Washington, D. C.
R. Gulick	Los Angeles, California — Late.
R. Jurischk	Houston, Texas
H. Leederman	Washington, D. C.
W. Marek	Houston, Texas
H. Rhodes	Niagara Falls, New York
E. Sanchez	San Antonio, Texas — Chairman-Safety Com
R. Slowinski	Ft. Lauderdale, Florida Not present.
J. Volk	Buffalo, New York
T. Waggoner	Buena Park, California
S. Watton	Washington, D. C.

Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
asbestosclaims.law/library/19571/5