EA Fitzpatrick
P.W. McD
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KAISER GYPSUM COMPANY, INC.

KAISER CENTER · 300 LAKESIDE DRIVE · OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94604

KAISER GYPSUM

December 27, 1971

ext. 2072

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

UC-5416

Walter J. Fitzpatrick, Regional Sales Manager
Union Carbide Corporation
2770 Leonis Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90058

Dear Walter:

As users of asbestos we are concerned by the growing amount of data that asbestos may be a health hazard both in our manufacturing operations and in the use of some of our products. We are familiar with the "Asbestos and Health-Questions and Answers" published by the Asbestos Information Association, and request that you provide us with the following more detailed information.

1. What is the extent of the health hazard that might be experienced with the type of asbestos fiber we purchase from your company:

   SG 210

   or might be interested in purchasing:

   7RF, 7TF, 7D1

   Please give details of mineralogical or crystalline nature of the fibers as well as toxicological information.

2. What precautions are recommended for handling these asbestos materials in our plants where they are incorporated into dry powders and into pastes?

   a. Charging and blending into batches

   b. Disposal of emptied bags and spills

   c. Recommended type respirators

   d. Dust monitoring techniques

   e. Procedures to use in case of accidental overexposure.

3. What precautions should be recommended to the contractors and workmen who use and apply our products containing asbestos fibers (products may contain from 1 to 10% of asbestos by weight)?

   These products are of the following types:

   Joint Compounds: Dry powders for job mixing with water or premixed pastes which are applied by hand tools or mechanical spreaders to conceal joints and nailheads in gypsum drywall construction. Application is usually done in three coats with drying between coats. There is usually some hand sandpapering of the applied and dried compounds.

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Product types (continued)

Wall texture: A dry powder texture for job mixing with water and either hand or spray application. It is usually applied by conventional compressed air paint spray guns in "fog" or "splatter" patterns.

Ceiling texture: A dry powder lightweight aggregate spray texture for job mixing with water. It is usually applied by means of large orifice compressed air spray guns in a "splatter" pattern. Overspray on the walls is scraped off by means of wide blade scrapers while still wet.

Laminating Compound: A dry powder product similar to the Joint Compounds used as an adhesive to bond one layer of gypsum wallboard to another. It is spread by hand or by mechanical spreader.

Specifically, what precautions should be recommended for:

a. Job mixing of dry powder materials

b. Spray application of slurried materials

c. Cleanup of empty bags, spills, overspray, droppings

d. Sandpapering of applied and dried joint cementing compounds containing asbestos fibers.

4. a. Scope of existing legislation restricting the use of asbestos in product manufacture and in the end use of these products.

b. Scope and probable timing of national or local legislation you are aware of which might be enacted restricting or prohibiting the use of asbestos in product manufacture and in the end use of these products.

Please reply to me with a copy to J. S. Sheahan, Research Department, Kaiser Gypsum Company, Inc., P.O. Box 460, Antioch, California 94509.

Very truly yours,

R. W. Grigg
Commodity Purchasing Manager

cc: George Kirk
J. S. Sheahan

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