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E.P.A. ORDERS CURBS ON 3 HAZARDS IN AIR

WASHINGTON, March 30 (UPI)—The Government proposed new rules today to cut down the amount of three hazardous substances — asbestos, beryllium and mercury — that Americans breathe. Asbestos has been linked to bronchial cancer and identified as a possible cause of other chest cancers. Beryllium can be lethal if inhaled in sufficient quantities and has also been linked to skin and eye problems. Mercury vapors have been linked to nerve and kidney injuries, as well as potential brain damage.

The rules from the Environmental Protection Agency require that no asbestos mills give off visible emissions, unless an air cleaning device is used.

They also ban the use of asbestos tailings — the unused part of the ore — for road surfaces and permit no visible emission in plants that use asbestos.

The rules limit the amount of beryllium that may be expelled from plants and limit the amount of emissions from plants that process mercury ore or are mercury material to produce chlorine gas.