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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 25 1983

OFFICE OF
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

REGISTERED MAIL

Dr. H. A. Eschenbach
Director of Health, Safety
and Toxicology
W. R. Grace & Co.
62 Whittemore Avenue
Cambridge, Mass. 02140

Dear Dr. Eschenbach:

With regard to:

TSCA Section 8(e) submission on: Vermiculite and Tremolite

Submitted by: W. R. Grace & Co.

Date Submitted: March 24, 1983

EPA Document Control Number: 8EHQ-0383-0473

EPA's Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances has completed a preliminary evaluation of the above referenced submission under Section 8(e), the substantial risk information reporting provision of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA; PL 94-469). The enclosed status report is the result of that evaluation but does not, however, necessarily represent EPA's final conclusion on the subject chemical substances.

With regard to the above referenced submission, EPA requests that W. R. Grace & Co. report the actual past and present tremolite exposure levels for the Libby employees who reportedly show signs of asbestos-related disease(s), the number of employees affected, and the nature of the asbestos-related disease(s) occurring. EPA also requests that W. R. Grace & Co. submit, when available, a complete copy of the results (including methodologies and data) of the Libby data analysis which is to be performed by Dr. J. C. McDonald and Dr. A. D. McDonald.

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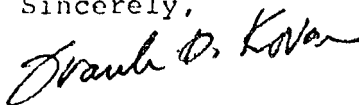
In responding to this request for information, or in otherwise communicating with EPA regarding this submission under Section 8(e), please refer to the EPA Document Control Number that has been assigned to the submission. As in the case of initial 8(e) submissions, all responses/correspondence will be placed in the public files unless confidentiality is claimed according to the procedures outlined in Part X of EPA's TSCA Section 8(e) policy statement ("Statement of Interpretation and Enforcement Policy; Notification of Substantial Risk;" 43 FR 11110; March 16, 1978). Any confidentiality claims should be supported by submission of information as described in the enclosed item entitled "Support Information for Confidentiality Claims." All of the information requested by this letter should be transmitted to the EPA Document Control Officer at the following address:

Document Control Officer (WH-557)
Management Support Division
Office of Toxic Substances
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 "M" Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

If you have any questions prior to responding to EPA's request for additional information or have any comments concerning the enclosed status report, please contact Mr. David R. Williams of the Chemical Hazard Identification Branch/AD at (202)-382-3468.

The Agency looks forward to continued cooperation with W. R. Grace & Co. in its efforts to evaluate and minimize potential risks posed by chemical substances or mixtures to health and/or the environment.

Sincerely,



Frank D. Kover
Chief, Chemical Hazard Identification Branch/AD/OTS (TS-778)

Enclosures

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