



INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

METALS DIVISION

• P.O. BOX 579 - 4625 ROYAL AVE., NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK 14302

To (Name) (See Attached List)

Date

July 14, 1977

Division

Originating Dept.

"Calidria" Asbestos Marketing

Location

Answering letter date

Copy to Messrs. R. E. Byrne, Jr.
T. P. Norris
H. B. Rhodes

Subject

Union Carbide and the State
of California

It has been suggested that we summarize our activities in the State of California, especially with regard to regulatory activities which concern asbestos.

For the past several years, we have spent an increasing amount of time and money to keep abreast of and, as necessary, influence legislation involving asbestos. Dr. Rhodes has handled and coordinated most of these efforts with customers, other asbestos companies, State legislators, various State departments, etc. Some of the work has been for the Asbestos Information Association, for which Harry is chairman of the technical subcommittee, but most of it has been as representatives of Union Carbide Corporation.

In recent months our activity has been in response to enactment of California's Occupational Carcinogens Control Act. One part of this Act provides for a massive education program. Union Carbide's "stature" and rapport with State personnel have been developed so effectively by prior activities that we were asked to participate heavily in the education program, even though our expertise is limited to asbestos. We have cooperated fully to perpetuate the status of Union Carbide and to maintain the opportunity to participate in any future legislation which may involve asbestos.

At the State's request, we "opened" our plant doors to their public relations personnel to develop a visual presentation of how we provide a safe working environment. They took about 200 pictures, which we converted into a 15-minute slide presentation. This has been presented at three State educational programs and will be presented at a fourth and final session in San Diego on July 19th (see Attachment I).

We originally declined an invitation to participate in a panel discussion on job-related cancer since we could not contribute information on any of the carcinogens except asbestos. However, it became apparent after the Los Angeles and San Jose sessions that most of the interest was about asbestos and asbestos industry representation was desirable. I accepted the State's invitation to be on the panel in Sacramento (see Attachment II) and prepared an opening statement (see Attachment III). I actively participated in the panel/audience discussion and also answered questions at a wrap-up session after the formal program was completed. I will be on both panels again in San Diego but Ed Fenner of Johns-Manville will probably take our place in the afternoon construction workshop.

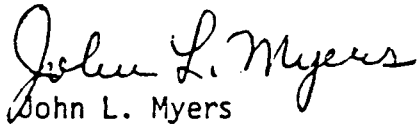
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We have agreed to participate in additional asbestos education programs which the State may schedule in August or September. The State will send a letter to about 100,000 potential asbestos users in August. We assisted in drafting the letter and will review the final draft next week.

Attachment IV contains excerpts from program-opening speeches by the Director of the State Department of Health. This will give you an idea of how the State appreciates our efforts and the status of Union Carbide's name in California.

One purpose of this letter is to let you know who we know and the contacts which have been established in California. If we can be of any assistance to other Division or Corporate personnel, be it "introductions" or whatever, do not hesitate to contact Harry Rhodes or me.


John L. Myers

/cjb
Attachments

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