PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
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REK-16

Health by Design

54th All-Ohio Safety Congress & Exhibit, April 24, 25, 26, 1984

Richard F. Celeste, Governor

Leonard T. Lancaster, Chairman, The Industrial Commission of Ohio
John A. Pompel, Superintendent, Division of Safety and Hygiene
Mary E. Horvath, Congress Coordinator

February 9, 1984

Legal Section
Industrial Commission of Ohio
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: [redacted]
R. E. Kramig Company
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

Attention: Judy Spencer

Dear Ms. Spencer:

On January 31, 1984, a visit was made to the R. E. Kramig Company in order to investigate the conditions under which the claimant worked.

The claimant was an insulation worker employed at the R. E. Kramig Company from 1945 to 1982. As an insulator the claimant's job "was to insulate pipe and tear out pipe insulation."

Due to the nature of the claimant's employment it was not possible to do an on-site investigation of specific work areas.

During the investigation a company official, Mr. Ed Hoffmeier, indicated the claimant did work with asbestos without respiratory protection prior to 1969. After 1969 the claimant continued to work with asbestos only in removal situations and only with proper respiratory protection.

Asbestos fibers find entry into the body by inhalation and ingestion. The fibers are retained in the body tissues throughout the lifetime of the host, even long after cessation of exposure. Fibers may migrate to other organs following retention in the lung. Asbestosis and certain malignancies are related to exposure to fibers of the asbestos minerals.

Asbestosis is a progressive restrictive pulmonary fibrosis associated with inhalation of asbestos fibers. Malignancies related to the inhalation and possibly ingestion of asbestos fibers by epidemiological studies include carcinomas of the lung, mesotheliomas of the pleura and peritoneum, and neoplasms of other sites.

Asbestos has a synergistic effect with cigarette smoking in producing carcinoma of the lung. Asbestos workers who are smokers have over 90 times the risk of non-exposed non-smokers of contracting lung cancer.

It is clear that the claimant was exposed to asbestos without respiratory protection from 1945 to 1969 and that such an exposure period could cause asbestosis. The medical records are unclear if the claimant did see a lung specialist and if the claimant did so what the final diagnosis was. Such an exposure to asbestos as the claimant's has produced asbestosis in individuals with similar histories.*

Respectfully,

Carey E. Gooch
Industrial Hygienist

CEG:gjb

* Documentation of TLV's 1983