FILE NAME: Powhatan (PHN)

DATE: 1979

DOC#: PHN031

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Govt Inspection Reports

TELEPHONE, 944-4746 *Powminco Asbestos Fiber* CABLE ADDRESS "POWMINCO"

POWHATAN MINING COMPANY

ACID PROOF ★ *Powminco Asbestos* ★ DIELECTRIC

6721 WINDSOR MILL ROAD - BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21207 U. S. A.

RECEIVED

FEB 5 1979

OFFICER

February 2, 1979

Donald J. Roop, M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy State and County Health Officer
Baltimore County Department of Health
Towson, Maryland, 21204

Dear Sir:

We understand the controversery regarding asbestos. For this reason we are undertaking the possibility of converting to another business.

We are, therefore, requesting that we be granted time to further explore the possibility of converting to another business. We would appreciate our being granted the opportunity of doing so.

Snows, rain and severe temperatures have prevented us from completion of: removal of waste material, as well as asphalting the roadways. These items cannot be accomplished until warmer weather.

We would appreciate hearing from you.

Yours very truly,

POWHATAN MINING COMPANY

Frances B. Mett

Frances B. Mett

FBM

POWMINCO
GOOCH
FILTER
FIBRE
TECHNICALLY
PURE

Mail Stop 3404 CB

March 2, 1979

Ms. Frances E. Matt
Powhatan Mining Company
6721 Windsor Mill Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

Dear Ms. Matt:

I am writing in response to your letter of February 2, 1979 requesting that you be allowed additional time to explore the possibility of converting to another business.

As you are aware of the health hazards associated with asbestos, I am sure you can appreciate my concern and the necessity of resolving this issue as expeditiously as possible. I am aware, also, that the conversion of your business would be quite an extensive undertaking and will require careful consideration on your part.

Under these circumstances, I feel that an additional 120 days is a sufficient amount of time in which to evaluate the alternatives available to you. Thus, by no later than June 13, 1979 I must receive notification of your final intentions for the Powhatan Mining Company. If you decide not to convert to another type of business, then you must proceed immediately with all plant modifications specified in my letter of October 2, 1978.

In the meantime you should proceed with plans for waste removal and paving of roadways as soon as weather permits. This letter does not constitute an extension of the Order issued by the State Environmental Health Administration on September 29, 1978. If you desire an additional extension of that Order you should contact Mr. Jim Leizear at 383-2771.

Very truly yours,

Donald J. Roop, M.D., M.P. H.
Deputy State and County
Health Officer

DJR:DF:mrg

cc: Ian Forrest, Env. Serv.
Don Lipinski, AQP
Jim Leizear, State Solid Waste

Telephone: 792-7600 (Office)
792-8664 (Home)

Harry W. Ferkler
Attorney at Law
3340 E. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Md. 21224

RECEIVED
APR 10 1979
HEALTH OFFICER

April 9, 1979

Mr. Jim Leizear
Deputy Health Officer
Baltimore County Department
of Health
Towson, Md. 21204

Re: Powhatan Mining Co.

Dear Mr. Leizear:

This is in furtherance to recent correspondence regarding waste disposal by the above company.

It is requested that this company be given an extention of the existing order for the disposal of waste due to the technical problems involved in finding a suitable method and location to properly dispose of the same. Numerous methods are being explored at the present time as to the conditions you have set forth but the same as yet to be resolved.

Very truly yours,

Harry W. Ferkler

HWF:cf
cc: Powhatan Mining Co.

William L. Phillips April 12, 1979

David Filbert

Powhatan Mining Co. - Compliance Update

On September 27, 1978 a meeting was held with company officials in the office of the Baltimore County Health Officer. The company was informed that inspections and evaluations of their operations made it evident that emissions of asbestos fibers from the plant to the atmosphere do occur, and that those emissions represented an imminent health hazard. A list of major modifications to the plant and the operations necessary to eliminate the emissions was presented to the company. The modifications that were required were very extensive, including renovation of the existing building or construction of an entirely new building.

The company took the recommendations under advisement and began to investigate the costs involved, and the extent of the modifications. In the meantime the company did complete several of the other items on the list, such as grounds clean up, window and door repair, improved housekeeping.

On February 2, 1979 the company submitted a letter stating that they were seriously considering converting to another business and requesting additional time to explore that possibility. They were informed by the County Health Officer that we must have a final decision to convert to another business or proceed with the building modifications by no later than June 13, 1979.

The results of the sampling program are still inconclusive. Analyses performed by 3 different laboratories varied tremendously over a wide range. McCrone Associates in Chicago found no asbestos fibers at all in our samples. The Maryland State laboratory found very high levels of amphibole fibers. The Bureau of Mines found moderate amounts.

DF

David Filbert, Program Supervisor
Technical Services Section
Division of Air Pollution
Bureau of Environmental Services

DF:mrg

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
201 West Preston Street
Baltimore 21201

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXX

Acting
DIRECTOR
XXXXXXXXXXXXX
Max Eisenberg, Ph.D.

RECEIVED
MAY 10 1979
HEARING OFFICER

Charles R. Buck, Jr., Sc.D.
2740
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Secretary

Refer to:
EH:CH:SW

MAY 9 1979

Mr. Howard Ferkler, Esquire
Attorney at Law
3340 E. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21224

Dear Mr. Ferkler,

We are in receipt of your letter of April 9, 1979 in which you requested an extension of time for compliance by the Powhatan Mining Company with an Order issued on September 29, 1978 by Donald H. Noren, former Director of the Environmental Health Administration, in accordance with Article 43, Section 397, of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Please be advised that we have reviewed such request and an extension is hereby granted.

Powhatan Mining shall submit the required engineering plans and specifications to the Environmental Health Administration by June 13, 1979 addressing methods of waste disposal to be employed by the company.

If you have any further questions, please communicate with the Division of Solid Waste, at 383-2771.

Sincerely yours,

CRB

Charles R. Buck, Jr., Sc.D.
Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene

CRB:slt

cc: Dr. Max Eisenberg
Dr. Benjamin D. White
Dr. Donald J. Roop
Mr. Ronald Nelson
Mr. Arthur N. Caple

RECEIVED
MAY 11 1979
ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES

COPY

TELEPHONE, 944-4746 *Powminco Asbestos Fiber* CABLE ADDRESS "POWMINCO"

POWHATAN MINING COMPANY

ACID PROOF ★ *Powminco Asbestos* ★ DIELECTRIC

6721 WINDSOR MILL ROAD - BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21207 U. S. A.

Check this out!!!

RECEIVED

JUN 19 1979

HEALTH OFFICER

June 18, 1979

Donald J. Roop, M.D.
Deputy State & County Health Officer
Baltimore County Dept. of Health
Towson, Maryland, 21204

Dear Sir:

This refers to your letter of March 2, 1979.

I am sure Mr. Leizear and Mr. Filbert have advised you of their visit to our plant on Monday, June 11th.

We have asked Mr. Leizear to obtain permission for us to remove the waste remaining. We have investigated the possibility of converting to another business, as well as meeting the requirements in your letter. We still have hopes the building can be used, but it looks as though Baltimore County is not going to allow this. The requirements to be met would not be economically possible or feasible for this Company. The market for our product no longer exists. The costs of reconstruction are astronomical. Ours has been a small business and capital is not available.

Thank you.

Yours very truly,

POWHATAN MINING COMPANY

Frances E. Mett

Appendix IV.—*Notice of Official Retraction*

Federal agency contact	Title of EIS	Status/number	Date notice published in "Federal Register"	Reason for retraction
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS Mr. Richard Makinen, Office of Environmental Policy, Attn: DAEN-CWR-P, Office of the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20314, (202) 272-0121.	Beach Erosion Control Project, Anna Maria Key, Manatee County, Florida.	Final supplement 90605	June 29, 1979	The final supplement EIS was not distributed at the time the notice of availability was published in Federal Register. The EIS was resubmitted for filing on July 25, 1979. The date review terminates is Aug. 24, 1979.

Appendix V.—*Availability of Reports/Additional Information Relating to EIS's Previously Filed With EPA*

Federal agency contact	Title of report	Date made available to EPA	Accession No.
None.			

Appendix VI.—*Official Correction*

Federal agency contact	Title of EIS	Filing status/accession No.	Date notice of availability published in "Federal Register"	Correction
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Mr. Barry Flamm, Coordinator, Environmental Quality Activities, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 412A, Washington, D.C. 20250, (202) 447-3965.	Escalante Generating Plant and Related Transmission Facilities, New Mexico.	Draft 90715	July 20, 1979	In appendix II the date review terminates was listed as 10-9-79. The correct date that review terminates is Sept. 3, 1979.
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION Mr. John B. Martin, director, Division of Waste Management, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555.	Uranium Milling, Generic Statement, Programmatic.	Draft 90412	July 27, 1979	In appendix II the date review terminates was listed as 7-26-79. The correct date that review terminates is Sept. 24, 1979.

[FR Doc. 79-24080 Filed 8-2-79; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560-01-M

[FRL 1290-8]

Plant Closings Attributable to Environmental Regulations; Request for Information

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is attempting to identify all industrial closings that have resulted from Federal, State, or local pollution control regulations. The EPA promptly transmits the information to the U.S. Department of Labor so that adverse employment effects can be minimized. This interagency reporting system is known as the Economic Dislocation Early Warning System (EDEWS). The information generated by the EDEWS is also essential in evaluating the effects of pollution control regulations on specific industries.

EPA is aware that plant closings generally result from a combination of factors, one of which may be the requirement to comply with environmental regulations. Because of the complexity of the subject and the unique circumstance of each decision to close a plant, EPA is not attempting to set forth guidelines as to what, in its view, may constitute a plant closing attributable to regulations for environmental protection. EPA would like to hear from any firm which has closed or plans to close a facility where inability to meet pollution control regulations is a substantial factor. The EPA would also appreciate any information regarding such situations from sources other than the firms themselves.

Please mail or phone the firm's name and address to the EPA contact in the appropriate region listed below.

Dated: July 31, 1979.

William Drayton, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator for Planning and Management.

Economic Dislocation Early Warning System

EPA Regional Representatives

Ms. Mary Vance, Enforcement Division, U.S. EPA—Region I, Room 2103, John F. Kennedy Building, Boston, Mass. 02203, 617/223-3479.

Ms. Cathy Callahan, Chief, Planning and Evaluation, Management Division, U.S. EPA—Region II, 26 Federal Plaza, Room 1013, New York, N.Y. 10007, 212/264-[illegible]2.

Mr. Fred Knapp, Management Division (3MA30), U.S. EPA—Region III, Curtis Building, (6th and Walnut Streets), Philadelphia, Pa. 19106, 215/597-[illegible]7.

Mr. Alan W. McCluney, Jr., Program Planning, Development, and Evaluation, U.S. EPA—

Mail Stop 3404 CB

August 24, 1979

Ms. Frances E. Mett
Powhatan Mining Company
6721 Windsor Mill Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

Dear Ms. Mett:

The Baltimore County Department of Health has conducted a thorough investigation of the operation of the Powhatan Mining Company and the emission of asbestos fibers from the plant to the atmosphere and, as a result, has probable cause to believe that a health hazard prejudicial to the public interest does exist.

In a letter dated October 2, 1978, I specified a list of modifications and renovations to the plant that would be required to eliminate the emission of asbestos fibers to the atmosphere. You have since advised me that the Powhatan Mining Company cannot possibly comply with the required corrective actions.

Considering the hazardous nature of asbestos and the documented health effects related to it, continued operation without corrective action will continue to cause and contribute to a health hazard in Baltimore County. Therefore, the processing and handling of asbestos must be terminated immediately. Termination of this operation is imperative for the protection of the health and welfare of the citizens of Baltimore County.

Within ten (10) days of receipt of this letter, please submit to this office written confirmation of the termination of asbestos processing at Powhatan's Windsor Mill Road plant.

I thank you for your cooperation in this matter and for your concern for the health and safety of the people of Baltimore County.

Very truly yours,

Donald J. Roop, M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy State and County Health Officer

DJR:DF:mrg

baltimore county
department of health
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

DONALD J. ROOP, M.D., M.P.H.
DEPUTY STATE AND COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

September 9, 1979

Ms. Frances E. Mett
Powhatan Mining Company
6721 Windsor Mill Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

Dear Ms. Mett:

The Baltimore County Department of Health has conducted a thorough investigation of the operation of the Powhatan Mining Company and the emission of asbestos fibers from the plant to the atmosphere, and as a result, has probable cause to believe that a health hazard prejudicial to the public interest does exist.

In a letter dated October 2, 1978, I specified a list of modifications and renovations to the plant that would be required to eliminate the emission of asbestos fibers to the atmosphere. You have since advised me that the Powhatan Mining Company cannot possibly comply with the required corrective actions.

Considering the hazardous nature of asbestos and the documented health effects related to it, continued operation without corrective action will continue to cause and contribute to a health hazard in Baltimore County. Therefore, the processing and handling of asbestos must be terminated immediately. Termination of this operation is imperative for the protection of the health and welfare of the citizens of Baltimore County.

Within ten (10) days of receipt of this letter, please submit to this office written confirmation of the termination of asbestos processing at Powhatan's Windsor Mill Road plant.

I thank you for your cooperation in this matter and for your concern for the health and safety of the people of Baltimore County.

Very truly yours,

Donald J. Roop, M.D.
Deputy State and County
Health Officer

DJR:DF:rs

9/17/79 Mr. Forrest [redacted]

RECEIVED

SEP 14 1979

HEALTH OFFICER

LAW OFFICES OF
NOLAN, PLUMHOFF & WILLIAMS
204 WEST PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

AREA CODE 301
TELEPHONE
823-7800

JAMES D. NOLAN
J. EARLE PLUMHOFF
NEWTON A. WILLIAMS
WILLIAM M. HESSON, JR.
THOMAS J. RENNER
KENNETH H. MASTERS
STEPHEN J. NOLAN

September 13, 1979

Donald J. Roop, M.D.
Deputy State and County
Health Officer
Baltimore County Department Of Health
County Office Building
Towson, Maryland 21204

Re: Powhatan Mining Company

Dear Dr. Roop:

In response to your letter of September 9, 1979 to Miss Frances E. Mett, we must take issue with the allegations therein and specifically deny that the operations of Powhatan Mining Company has ever presented a health hazard to its employees or the general public.

It has been determined that the modifications and renovations demanded by your office for continued operation are beyond the financial capabilities of the company. Additionally, the expense of contesting the issues raised by your allegations by available legal remedies are also beyond the financial capabilities of the company. I have been specifically advised by Miss Mett that the asbestos operations have been terminated for some time, are terminated at this time, and will not be reinstituted in the future. However, the premises are to be continued to be utilized for warehousing and office purposes, none of which involves the emission of asbestos into the atmosphere.

I believe this fully complies with the requests made by your office under your letter of September 9, 1979.

Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Renner

TJR:mgf
cc: Miss Frances E. Mett