FILE NAME: ICI (ICI)

DATE: 1967 Feb 17

DOC#: ICI019

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo

NEWALLS INSULATION & CHEMICAL CO. LTD.

FROM

WASHINGTON

TO

Mr. John Waddell,
Turner Brothers Asbestos Co.Ltd,
Rochdale

OUR REF. JW/JHC OUR REF. RH/CcR 17th February 1967

c. AHN/ACM/SH
AN/GRP

Private & Confidential

I.C.I. SLOUGH - ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIAL

Thank you for your memorandum of 14th February. There are one or two points which I thought you would like me to comment upon.

I.C.I. Slough is the Paints Division of I.C.I. and the directive which they have issued on the question of non-asbestos materials is their own interpretation based on their Medical Officer's views. We are finding that other sections of I.C.I. are forming their own opinions based on their Medical Officer's interpretation of the situation, for example, at Billingham we are being asked to carry out contract work with aluminium or sheet metal finishes in place of BD 2 cement. My remarks with regard to C.E.G.B. attitude to BD 2 similarly applies to I.C.I. They will tend to specify any armouring cement which is non-asbestos or alternatively they will switch to a metal type finish in preference to using standard BD 2 material.

I agree with the point which you make about the possible lower percentage of asbestos in calcium silicate as comped with 85% magnesia, however, this would not influence the matter, although you will appreciate that a number of firms manufacture calcium silicate and I would say that the percentage of fibre contained in competitive products might vary from 10% to possibly 17½%.

Continued/.....

25×10

62/639-40

In considering alternatives to asbestos our R&D Department have certainly gone into the question of chopped glass rovings and discussions have or are taking place with T.E.A.

My previous reference to the fact that I did not think that I.C.I. used much asbestos cloth is strictly related to insulation work. We have carried out over the past year or two, some hundreds-of-thousands £'s worth of insulation work for I.C.I. and the quantity of asbestos cloth required on these projects has been insignificant. It may be that the different I.C.I. Divisions buy asbestos cloth for uses other than thermal insulation work.

ROBERT H. WILSON