



T-71-58



PPG INDUSTRIES, INC./ONE GATEWAY CENTER/PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15222/AREA

December 21, 1971

LEE B. GRANT, M.D.
Medical Director

Mr. Carl P. Olm
Pittsburgh Corning Corporation
P. O. Box 37
Port Allegany, Pennsylvania 16743

Subject: Unibestos Manufacture - Port Allegany

Dear Carl:

I have just reviewed a copy of a letter to you dated December 16, 1971, from William M. Johnson, M.D., in which he has enclosed a copy of the October 18-20, 1971 Dust Survey at the Port Allegany Plant. As Dr. Johnson indicates, these levels are in excess of recently published asbestos standards under O.S.H.A. We, of course, are aware of these dust levels that are in agreement generally with the levels found in a survey done in 1970. This is the reason for the Pittsburgh Corning Corporation request for the Temporary Variance from the Asbestos Standard.

On December 7, 1971, an Emergency Standard for Asbestos was published in the Federal Register and became effective immediately. A copy of this is attached for your information and appropriate action. It would appear from comparing the dust levels at the plant with the respirator requirements set forth in the Standard that the plant's mandatory respirator protection program using MSA Comfo Mask with the ultra filter may not be adequate wherever the dust survey shows an average reading for a job above 25 fibers/c.c. I have talked with the MSA representative about the availability of the mask referred to in Paragraph 1910.93a(c)(3) of the Standard - "A Powered Filter Positive Pressure Respirator approved by the U. S. Bureau of Mines". MSA does not have such respirator, so I have written to the Bureau of Mines this date inquiring as to availability from any source. I will advise you as soon as I receive a reply from the Bureau of Mines.

Very truly yours,

Lee B. Grant, M.D.
Medical Director

LBG:lc
Enclosure
cc: E. W. Holman
Dr. W. M. Johnson

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