

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health  
550 Main Street, Federal Office Bldg., 15th Fl.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

December 16, 1971

Mr. Carl Elm  
Plant Manager  
Pittsburgh Corning Corporation  
Fort Allegany, Pennsylvania 15743

Dear Mr. Elm:

N.I.O.S.H. has received asbestos sampling results taken at the Pittsburgh Corning Corporation amosite asbestos thermal pipe insulation plant in Fort Allegany, Pennsylvania by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources during the week of October 18 to 20, 1971 under ESW Contract H41-695-71-17. The results demonstrate a serious and hazardous occupational health situation.

N.I.O.S.H. industrial hygiene surveys in 1966 and 1968 yielded grossly excessive fiber concentrations compared to the current asbestos standard. Despite additional ventilation in 1970 with a reduction in asbestos levels, fiber concentrations still remained excessive.

In September 1971 a N.I.O.S.H. survey team administered medical questionnaires, pulmonary function tests, chest x-rays, and examinations for rales and finger clubbing. Seventy-three employees in the asbestos operation were included, and a preliminary analysis of the medical data yielded no definite cases of asbestosis. However, 53 of the 73 employees had worked in the asbestos operations for only 5 years or less, and the Fort Allegany asbestos operations are less than eight years old. Moreover, a

PLAINTIFF'S  
EXHIBIT

WV-009664

Com Ech#58

12-2-83

GRANT 54.58  
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PLAINTIFF'S  
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43980

Mr. Carl Glin, Plant Manager  
December 15, 1971  
Page 2

recent medical survey at the Pittsburgh Corning Corporation sister vermiculite asbestos plant in Tyler, Texas yielded a high prevalence of asbestos-related pulmonary disease manifestations in those workers with ten or more years employment, thus demonstrating the distinct possibility of serious health afflictions under continued high asbestos exposures such as those presently existing at the Fort Allegany plant.

In conclusion, current asbestos exposures are excessive. A detailed industrial hygiene report and a list of the most recent air sampling results are enclosed. M.I.C.I.H. has received informal notice from management that the asbestos operations will cease on January 31, 1972. However, this does not diminish the seriousness of this hazard in the interim.

In accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, our survey results are being forwarded to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Sincerely yours,

William H. Johnson, M.D.  
Acting Deputy Director  
Division of Field Studies  
and Clinical Investigations

Enclosures:  
Industrial Hygiene Report  
Air Sampling Results

cc: Director, DHEC  
Regional Program Director, MICH, Region III  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources  
Mr. Charles Crisp  
Dr. Lee Grant

RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

ASBESTOS ENVIRONMENTAL DATA  
 PERSONAL SAMPLES  
 PLANT #31  
 PITTSBURGH-CORNING CORPORATION  
 PORT ALLEGANY, PENNSYLVANIA  
 10/18/71  
 PENNSYLVANIA STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
 (Ken Wallingford, Assisting)

| OPERATION AND JOB      | SAMPLE # | CONCENTRATION<br>FIBERS >5μ/cc | AIR VOLUME<br>LITERS |
|------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 700 <i>Mixing</i>      |          |                                |                      |
| Feeder Operator        | 006      | 44.94                          | 65.3                 |
| Feeder Operator        | 012      | 60.06                          | 62.9                 |
| Feeder Operator        | 025      | 59.70                          | 78.2                 |
| Feeder Operator        | 044      | 26.67                          | 122.4                |
| Feeder Operator        | 053      | 34.24                          | 71.4                 |
| Feeder Operator        | 065      | 74.21                          | 34.0                 |
| Feeder Operator        | 069      | 24.56                          | 95.2                 |
| 710 <i>Forming</i>     |          |                                |                      |
| Foreman                | 002      | 4.12                           | 93.5                 |
| Utility Operator       | 003      | 14.97                          | 95.2                 |
| Builder                | 004      | 13.47                          | 56.1                 |
| Builder                | 005      | 18.47                          | 62.9                 |
| Utility Operator       | 008      | 38.23                          | 71.4                 |
| Builder                | 009      | 15.41                          | 90.1                 |
| Foreman                | 010      | 2.27                           | 100.3                |
| Builder                | 011      | 28.86                          | 62.9                 |
| Builder (mineral wool) | 013      | 10.10                          | 74.8                 |
| Builder                | 016      | 25.40                          | 88.4                 |
| Builder                | 018      | 35.59                          | 69.7                 |
| Builder                | 026      | 23.73                          | 79.9                 |
| Builder                | 027      | 47.26                          | 85.0                 |
| Builder                | 028      | 34.76                          | 81.6                 |
| Builder                | 034      | 28.39                          | 134.3                |
| Builder                | 035      | 44.88                          | 120.7                |
| Builder                | 037      | 35.61                          | 130.9                |
| Builder                | 039      | 20.09                          | 130.9                |

| OPERATION AND JOB                 | SAMPLE # | CONCENTRATION<br>FIBERS >5μ/cc | AIR VOLUME<br>LITERS |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>710 Forming (continued)</b>    |          |                                |                      |
| Builder (mineral wool)            | 041      | 7.29                           | 117.3                |
| Foreman                           | 043      | 14.65                          | 127.5                |
| Builder                           | 051      | 35.69                          | 69.9                 |
| Builder (mineral wool)            | 054      | 14.19                          | 66.3                 |
| Foreman (builder)                 | 055      | 65.92                          | 61.2                 |
| Builder                           | 056      | 63.10                          | 66.3                 |
| Builder                           | 057      | 69.02                          | 66.3                 |
| Builder                           | 058      | 25.38                          | 64.6                 |
| Foreman (office)                  | 059      | 3.34                           | 91.8                 |
| Builder                           | 061      | 18.93                          | 56.1                 |
| Builder                           | 062      | 13.86                          | 83.3                 |
| Builder                           | 066      | 12.35                          | 62.9                 |
| Builder                           | 067      | 16.14                          | 34.0                 |
| Utility Operator                  | 070      | 10.43                          | 73.1                 |
| <b>730 Finishing</b>              |          |                                |                      |
| Foreman                           | 015      | 1.05                           | 88.4                 |
| Band Saw Operator                 | 019      | 14.67                          | 91.8                 |
| Wrapper                           | 023      | 8.16                           | 93.5                 |
| Wrapper                           | 029      | 10.70                          | 129.2                |
| Saw Operator                      | 030      | 24.22                          | 137.7                |
| Material Handler                  | 031      | 14.56                          | 129.2                |
| Material Handler                  | 033      | 13.28                          | 132.6                |
| Utility Operator                  | 042      | 15.75                          | 132.6                |
| Material Handler                  | 046      | 16.14                          | 73.2                 |
| Saw Operator                      | 047      | 28.93                          | 68.0                 |
| Material Handler                  | 049      | 17.29                          | 69.0                 |
| Utility Operator                  | 050      | 20.64                          | 55.3                 |
| Wrapper                           | 052      | 31.18                          | 66.3                 |
| Utility Operator                  | 060      | 16.07                          | 71.4                 |
| Band Saw Operator                 | 072      | 8.01                           | 76.5                 |
| Fork Lift Operator                | 078      | 5.37                           | 42.5                 |
| Fork Lift Operator                | 080      | 6.13                           | 44.2                 |
| <b>740 Inspection and Packing</b> |          |                                |                      |
| Fork Lift Operator                | 001      | 6.29                           | 98.6                 |
| Fork Lift Operator                | 007      | 6.83                           | 73.1                 |
| Box Marker                        | 014      | 3.06                           | 107.1                |
| Fork Lift Operator                | 017      | 8.24                           | 100.3                |
| Packer                            | 020      | 9.07                           | 93.5                 |

| OPERATION AND JOB                      | SAMPLE<br># | CONCENTRATION<br>FIBERS >5 $\mu$ /cc | AIR VOLUME<br>LITERS |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 740 Inspection and Packing (continued) |             |                                      |                      |
| Packer                                 | 021         | 19.30                                | 107.1                |
| Packer                                 | 022         | 10.23                                | 100.3                |
| Packer                                 | 032         | 12.29                                | 125.8                |
| Box Maker                              | 040         | 6.62                                 | 129.2                |
| Box Maker                              | 048         | 11.15                                | 69.7                 |
| Fork Lift Operator                     | 053         | 8.73                                 | 62.9                 |
| Utility Operator                       | 054         | 29.10                                | 86.7                 |
| Fork Lift Operator                     | 071         | 9.49                                 | 90.1                 |
| Box Maker                              | 073         | 4.79                                 | 71.4                 |
| Packer                                 | 074         | 37.73                                | 68.0                 |
| Fork Lift Operator                     | 075         | 3.61                                 | 73.1                 |
| Packer                                 | 076         | 5.93                                 | 98.6                 |
| Packer                                 | 077         | 10.90                                | 51.0                 |
| Box Maker                              | 079         | 5.43                                 | 45.9                 |
| 750 Miscellaneous                      |             |                                      |                      |
| Fork Lift Operator (warehouse)         | 024         | 1.66                                 | 98.6                 |
| Fork Lift Operator (warehouse)         | 035         | 3.53                                 | 64.6                 |
| Foreman                                | 038         | 4.30                                 | 197.2                |
| Fork Lift Operator (warehouse)         | 045         | 0.57                                 | 124.1                |
| Foreman                                | 058         | 3.58                                 | 81.6                 |