

FILE NAME: Asbestos Cement Pipe and Sheet (ACPS)

DATE: 1968 Feb 21

DOC#: ACPS052

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Newspaper Article - Health Board to Review
Asbestos Water Pipe Use

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—THE NASHVILLE BANNER, Wed., Feb. 21, 1963—

Health Board To Review Asbestos Water Pipe Use

The Metro Health Board on a motion by Dr. David Strayhorn Sr. voted today to reconsider its stand on the use of asbestos-concrete pipe for water lines.

The board voted Jan. 17 to "not approve the use of the pipe" until sufficient information could be obtained to prove the pipe was medically safe.

Metro health director Dr. Joseph Bistowish said the board's action did not mean that it would change its position concerning the pipe but only that it would reconsider any information concerning the safety of the pipe.

"Asbestos is a known cancer

causing agent when inhaled," Dr. Bistowish said, but added that sufficient information is not available concerning its use as a water conducting material.

The U.S. Public Health Service is initiating a study into asbestos pipe, probably as a result of an inquiry to them from the health department.

"The service told us we were the first municipal health board to raise the question concerning the safety of the pipe," Dr. Bistowish said.

Representatives of an asbestos-cement pipe producer spoke to the board to explain their position. The spokesmen said they objected "to being guilty until proven innocent."

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—Staff photo by Jack Corn

It's Cast Iron vs. Asbestos in Council Squabble

Metro councilmen listen intently as spokesmen for cast iron and asbestos cement pipe firms argue the relative merits of their products. The piece of pipe in the foreground is cast iron. It was taken from an old city waterline

after serving without any breakdown for nearly 75 years, Metro waterworks officials said. The councilmen, from left, are Tandy Wilson, Thurman Brooks and Richard Taylor.

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JM - 83