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Westinghouse
Electric Corporation

July 9, 1975

SHARON WORKS
Accident Prevention
Safety Supervisor
S. Messina

Headquarters Industrial Hygiene
Research and Development Center

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PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
WH-1008

On May 16, 1975 a tour of the Sharon Plant Core Building was conducted in order to evaluate the airborne asbestos exposure potential to employees. Four (4) air samples were collected at specific work stations and areas in the Core Building. The samples were analyzed for asbestos fibers (Table 1).

The following is a summary of the plant tour and analyses of the samples:

- (1) The operator of the A-20 table saw is exposed to asbestos concentrations exceeding the OSHA - 8 hour limit.^{1/} Ventilation at the table saw appears to capture the asbestos fibers coming off from the sawing operation. However, the ventilation is ineffective when the saw operations wastebag is changed. The changing of the wastebag appears to be the greatest source of contribution to the airborne asbestos concentrations. Note: The operator of the saw is required to wear a respirator.
- (2) Other areas in the Core Building contain other potential airborne asbestos concentration sources. The sources are the A-20 saw operation, the changing of the wastebags and the many open storage bins for the asbestos materials and the asbestos contamination on the employees clothing. It appears that personnel exposure in the Core Building will not exceed the OSHA ceiling concentration limit of 10 fibers per cc.^{2/}

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) A medical surveillance program is required for all employees that are potentially exposed to airborne asbestos concentrations.^{3/} Recommendation is made that employees handling the asbestos materials directly should be the primary group in the Medical Surveillance Program. All other employees in the Core Building, who are subject to potential exposures to airborne asbestos concentrations, should be the secondary group in the Medical Surveillance Program.

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- (2) Improve the methods for changing the table saw wastebags. One recommendation is to tie-off the bag before it is released from the ventilation source.
- (3) Improve the storage methods for the asbestos materials. One method is to provide lids for all the asbestos storage containers.
- (4) Strictly enforce the Industrial Hygiene working practices of the employees working directly with the asbestos. Examples- wearing of respirators, washing of hands, no smoking in area, and use of ventilation.
- (5) And, finally the most important recommendation, find a substitute for the asbestos materials now in use. Zella Heasley can be contacted for more information on asbestos substitutes.
Note: Finding an asbestos substitute will also answer a similar problem at the Muncie plant.

After you have reviewed this report, please contact me by phone for additional consultation.


K. A. Bodden, Administrator
Corporate Industrial Hygiene

cc: W. Ziefel
cc: H. Burr

REFERENCES

- 1/ OSHA 1910.93a(b)(1)
- 2/ OSHA 1910.93a(b)(3)
- 3/ OSHA 1910.93a(j)

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