



**Johns-Manville
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April 19, 1979

Mr. Ed Drislane
Friction Materials Standards Institute
Bergen Mall Office Center
E-210, Route #4
Paramus, N.J. 07652

Dear Ed:

Confirming our telephone conversation of April 17, we have been advised by the EPA Office of Toxic Substances that they are planning to undertake a voluntary action program for asbestos containing brake linings similar to the program they have developed for school ceilings. The purpose of the program would be to educate consumers and garage employees with regard to appropriate work practices. EPA feels they have an obligation to develop this program based on data they received which indicates that approximately 30% of all brake linings are installed by "do-it-yourselfers".

We have provided them with a copy of the FMSI Work Practices Guide, however, I feel it might be worthwhile for FMSI to communicate directly with EPA and advise them of other programs that you have undertaken to disseminate information on proper work practices (i.e. articles in trade journals, inserts on work practices in cartons, etc.). If you decide to provide this information to EPA, it should be directed to Mr. John DeKaney, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Chemical Control within EPA's Office of Toxic Substances in Washington.

I have also discussed with our Washington office, the subject of the inclusion of friction materials as a Class I product in the appendix of the industry draft copy of an "Asbestos Health Hazards Compensation Act". The appendix as shown in the AIA memo of April 11 was only a preliminary list, and taken from the original Fenwick bill. The only reason friction materials were included in the list was that there was no one from the industry present to defend the product and provide the necessary reasons for excluding them from the Class I category. It should be noted that this list is only a preliminary list and can very easily be changed.

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John Autry, our Assistant Vice President for Public Affairs in Washington, indicated he would be glad to discuss the subject with you so that he can be better prepared to defend the recommended classification of the products as this legislation develops. You can contact John in Washington at (202) 785-4940.

Also as stated in Bob Pigg's memo, you should contact Mr. Bob Emerton of the Jim Walter Corporation who is collecting the comments on the Appendix list.

We will keep you advised of any progress in both of these areas.

Yours very truly,



James F. Reis
Market Manager
Asbestos Fiber

JFR:mh