sent 3/3/77 cc: B. Semple

Johnson & Johnson

New Brunswick, N.J.
February 15, 1977

Subject: TOXICITY OF TREMOLITE

TO: Mr. G. Lee

I had occasion to talk to Dr. Wagner concerning the status of his animal studies on tremolite. It appears that he has initiated an animal study in rats in which three types of tremolite have been injected into the intrapleural space. The tremolite was obtained from talc, from the Cyprus mine and a Colorado mine and represents three different forms of tremolite.

Dr. Wagner informed me that the study will terminate in 1979. In mentioning the recent conclusion of tremolite as a hazard Dr. Wagner indicated that there were no data anywhere to indicate the toxicity or lack of toxicity of tremolite but that the decision may relate to a recently published article in which tremolite was found in histology specimens of lungs. The article was published by Pooley and is in a recent Journal of Environmental Research whose editor is Dr. Selikoff.

G Hildick-Smith ms

Gavin Hildick-Smith

GHS/tm

cc: Dr. R. Rolle

We will re-contact Wagner with the OSHA-Vanderbilt talc re-evaluation and solicit his interim findings. GL will furnish information to GHS

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