FILE NAME: Westinghouse (WH)

DATE: 1973 Feb 7

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo RE Use of Asbestos Cloth, Paper and Tape in Soldering Operations

looking for
(asb) cloth
substitute
(high peaks from tearing
1973

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asb. cloth tearing
by hand a matter
of concern.
Non-fl substitutes
recommended 1973

From Accident Prevention, LC
Ext 236-2163
Date February 7, 1973
Subject Use of Asbestos Cloth, Paper and Tape in Soldering Operations

EAST PITTSBURGH

Mr. W. G. Craig
Service Performance Engineering

cc: San Francisco Office, Power Generation Service - Mr. R. L. Bergquist
East Pittsburgh, 6G Power Generation Service - Messrs. H. Smallwood/ R. Van Veen
East Pittsburgh, 10-L Ins. Dev. Eng. - Messrs. D. Reilly/ P. Curtis
East Pittsburgh, 5NN, Turbine Gen. Eng. - Mr. J. D. Davidson
East Pittsburgh, 4NN, Ins. Design Eng. - Mr. J. C. Botts
East Pittsburgh, 4NS, Service Perf. Eng. - Mr. R. J. Hillen
→ East Pittsburgh, 2046, Industrial Hygiene - Mr. H. W. Speicher

Based upon the results of tests which were submitted to you in writing by H. W. Speicher concerning the concentrations of asbestos during the handling of asbestos cloth, I would like to call your attention to the negative aspects of Mr. Speicher's report to you.

The test report left some doubt that the use of asbestos in this operation is no health problem, particularly considering the excessive levels found after the cloth was torn by hand.

Although Mr. Speicher has requested a sample of several square feet of the asbestos cloth used at the California operation for testing, I would recommend that the personnel out there obtain the services of a consultant who can take samples during the handling of the asbestos cloth during normal soldering operations since the condition of the cloth and the technique in handling is critical in creating airborne asbestos fibers.

Efforts should be directed to find suitable substitutes for asbestos bearing materials such as fiberglass or rockwool.

E. J. Hlavaty, Manager
Accident Prevention

/djr