

VP-16273



E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

October 20, 1980

SITE MANAGEMENT

Medical X-Ray Review Program

As you may know, site physicians recently have been invited to Wilmington for a program to improve early detection of lung abnormalities which may be related to asbestos exposure. The attached communication, which will be sent from Medical Division to site physicians on October 27, asks them to review as soon as possible, but within six months, all x-rays of employees over forty with ten years' service and probable job-related exposure to asbestos. If your physician has not yet attended one of the review sessions, you are asked to facilitate his attendance. We also ask your support in checking with, and cooperating with, your physician in this review program.

Your help is especially appreciated in identifying those employees with possible exposure. Experience at other sites has indicated that all crafts in the Mechanical Department should be included as well as other individuals who may have come into contact with asbestos in manufacturing operations. We urge your reviewing this list with your plant physicians at the earliest convenient time.

Finally, because of the importance of this program, we ask that you discuss with your physician each item of the program in the letter to physicians and verify its completion to this writer by March 31, 1981.

Attached is a copy of a suggested communication and "questions and answers" which you may want to use in whole or in part to inform your supervision and employees of this medical activity. In determining the nature and extent of employee communications you should consider the highly sensitive, personal, and emotional nature of this matter. You should consider that union organizers and others may try to make an issue of Company practices concerning asbestos handling and may use the OSHA standard on access to medical records as a vehicle to accomplish this.

Sites are requested not to initiate communication with employees before 8:00 a.m., October 29.

DUP 0935-435

BETTER THINGS FOR BETTER LIVING ... THROUGH CHEMISTRY

DU 037011

Site Management
Page 2
October 20, 1980

Also attached are a copy of the Corporate media standby statement on asbestos-related illnesses and a draft media standby statement that can be tailored to individual sites. Additional background information on asbestos and its related illnesses is being developed and will be distributed as soon as possible. Media questions about the Corporate program not covered in the questions and answers should be referred to Roger R. Morris (302) 774-9561 of the Corporate Public Affairs Staff.

If you have any questions regarding this medical program, please contact your departmental Occupational Health Coordinator.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH MANAGER

Attachments

DUP 0935436

DU 037012