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Inter Office

Personnel and Organization Staff

March 27, 1973

To: Division Safety Engineers

Subject: Asbestos Fiber Exposure from Pipe Covering and Insulation Operations - Standard Handling Procedures

As a result of the recent survey of Ford Motor Company operations, several plants were identified as using asbestos or asbestos laden insulation materials or having asbestos insulating material as part of existing plant insulation. The Federal Department of Labor under the authority of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, has promulgated specific standards for the use of asbestos. These standards are published in the Federal Register of October 18, 1972, pages 22142-22144, Section 1910.93a "Asbestos." In order that Company pipe covering and insulation operations will be in compliance with OSHA asbestos standards, the following procedure is recommended:

1. Wherever possible, materials shall be substituted for asbestos in pipe covering and insulation operations. When existing asbestos materials are removed, every attempt shall be made to replace it with non-asbestos material.

   Failing this, the following is recommended:

2. Whenever possible, asbestos materials shall be handled wet.

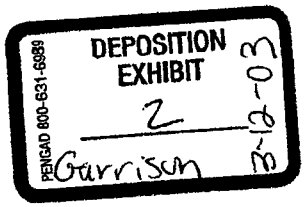
3. All power tools used to cut, form, or drill asbestos materials shall be locally exhausted if these tools may generate excessive dust concentrations.

4. Single use respirator under approval 21c or re-usable respirators approved for pneumoconiosis producing dust under Schedule 21 shall be used when handling dry asbestos material if dust is not controlled by other methods.

5. Special coveralls must be provided and at any fixed place of employment change rooms and two lockers, one for street clothes and one for work clothes shall also be provided. These coveralls shall be labeled as to the asbestos hazard and the laundry informed that they may be contaminated with asbestos fiber.

6. Areas where asbestos, operations are taking place shall be cordoned off and warning signs posted per subparagraph g, OSHA Section 1910.93a, pages 22143-22144.

7. When demolition of existing asbestos insulation is being done in confined areas, the Industrial Hygiene Section shall be notified to specify necessary dust control measures.



8. Clean-up of waste material shall be done by employes included in the medical evaluation program. Clean-up shall be done by vacuum cleaners with high efficiency filter or with wet methods of dust control.

9. Disposal of asbestos waste material shall be in sealed containers labeled per subparagraph g and h, OSHA 1910.93a, pages 22143-22144.

10. Employes designated to work with asbestos shall be given a pre-employment, annual. and termination medical examination consisting of posterior-anterior 14 x 17 in. chest roentgenogram and pulmonary function tests to include forced vital capacity FVC and forced expiratory volume at 1 second FEV.

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