

January 9, 1953

Memorandum

To: Dr. Vorwald

From: Mr. Durkan

Mr. Don Irish of Dow Chemical called to inquire whether we would expect an amorphous silica made by the De Gussa (German) process to be hazardous. Apparently the De Gussa process is like the G. E. method we use here - burning ethyl silicate. De Gussa claims to have had no trouble from exposure to the material. The De Gussa process is being used by Owens-Corning and Dow Chemical is a consultant to Owens-Corning.

Mention was made of Dr. Pratt's paper at the Symposium, which disclosed that some of the synthetic silicas are definitely hazardous while others are relatively harmless. The silica made by the De Gussa process would appear to be potentially hazardous in spite of De Gussa's negative report.

Suggested that Owens-Corning make an appointment and come to Saranac in order to review the situation and decide whether experimental studies should be made.

TMD:gn

January 17, 1953

Dr. D. D. Irish
Dow Chemical Company
Biochemical Research Laboratory
Midland, Michigan

Dear Doctor Irish:

Mr. Durkan has informed me of your telephone call last week in which you inquired as to whether there might be a hazard associated with the use of one of the new finely-divided amorphous silicas. As I believe he informed you, Dr. Philip C. Pratt of this Laboratory discussed at our Seventh Saranac Symposium the biologic effect of ultramicroscopic dusts, and pointed out that some are definitely hazardous while others are relatively harmless.

I believe that it would prove very profitable for all concerned if you and possibly other members from Dow Chemical as well as a group from Owens-Corning, could arrange to visit us here in Saranac Lake and discuss the subject. We could show you the type of dust chamber we use in conducting animal experiments with finely-divided amorphous silica, and you would then have a good understanding of our experimental methods with this type of material.

In any event it is about time you came to see us, and I wish to extend to you and your group a most cordial invitation to visit us here at the Saranac Laboratory.

With every best wish,

Sincerely yours,

Arthur J. Vorwald, M.D.
Director, The Trudeau Foundation
and The Saranac Laboratory

AJV:gn

February 26, 1953

Mr. Howard M. Penn
Production Manager
Dow Corning Corporation
Midland, Michigan

Dear Mr. Penn:

In furtherance of your visit here on February 11 and our discussion, we are submitting herewith our proposal for an investigative study of "The Capacity of Inhaled Finely-divided Amorphous Silica to Damage the Lung."

You will note that the protocol of the study is rather comprehensive. The investigation is somewhat larger than the studies which we have conducted heretofore, but we believe that the expanded program is necessary because of the observations which we have made concerning other amorphous silicas. We have made every effort to keep the budgetary figure as low as the proposed program will permit.

With respect to paragraph "F" on page 8, namely, publication of results, this paragraph is introduced into all of our proposals in order to make evident to the industrial sponsor of the work that we will be extremely guarded before making any comment or statement pertaining to the compound being studied. By introducing this clause we wish to make it clear that Industry's interests must be protected.

We trust that you will give every consideration to this proposal and that you will inform us of your decision as soon as possible so that the dust room now available can be reserved for your program.

Enclosed are four copies of the proposal for distribution as you deem necessary. Copies have not been forwarded to Doctor Irish or to Doctor Gay. If additional ones are needed, we will be happy to send them to you.

With every best wish,

Sincerely yours,

Arthur J. Vorwald, M.D.
Director, The Saranac Laboratory
and The Trudeau Foundation

AJV:LB

ENCS. (4)

CC: Dr. B. D. Irish

Dr. Harold E. Gay

DOW CORNING CORPORATION

M I D L A N D • M I C H I G A N

HNF/bae

March 16, 1953

Dr. A. J. Vorwald
The Trudeau Foundation
P.O. Box 551
Saranac Lake, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Vorwald:

We now have had an opportunity to go over your proposal for an investigative study of "The Capacity of Inhaled Finely-divided Amorphous Silica to Damage the Lung". We wish you to proceed with such a program on the silica which we propose to manufacture. We suggest that this material be classified as K-3 Silica for purposes of identification.

Our toxicological work is taken care of by our director of research, Dr. Melvin J. Hunter. We will ask him to look after any details necessary for the furtherance of your study. He will have a purchase order issued to handle the cost of your proposed two-year study. Please address any future communications to him.

We now have in our plant ample quantities of the type K-3 Silica which we wish to use in your investigation. If you will advise Dr. Hunter of the quantities which will be necessary, shipment can be made to you immediately.

We wish to thank you for a very instructive day at your laboratory and your hospitality. Should you be in Midland at any time in the future, we hope we may have the opportunity to reciprocate.

Very truly yours,

DOW CORNING CORPORATION



H. N. Fenn
Production Manager

ce / MR
Wagner



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March 24, 1953

MEMORANDUM:**TO: Mr. Wagner****FROM: Lillian R. Blinn****SUBJECT: Dow Corning Corporation Contract**

- 1 - Authorization letter dated March 16, 1953 from
Mr. H. N. Fenn, Production Manager.
- 2 - Mr. Durkan suggests we use April 1, 1953 as
starting date for this contract.
- 3 - Two-year study — total \$22,000 in accordance
with attached Budget page.
- 4 - Purchase order will be issued by Dow Corning to
handle the cost of the two-year study. Dr. Melvin
J. Hunter, Director of Research, will handle the
details.
- 5 - Attached is a copy of a memorandum notifying the
necessary personnel regarding this contract.

LRB:gn

March 24, 1953

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Mr. Bailey
Mr. Delahant
Dr. Pratt
Mr. Urban

FROM: Thomas M. Durkan

SUBJECT: Proposal to Dow Corning Corporation, Midland, Michigan
concerning THE CAPACITY OF INHALED FINELY-DIVIDED
AMORPHOUS SILICA TO DAMAGE THE LUNG.

- 1 - We have been authorized by the Dow Corning Corporation
(letter dated March 16, 1953) to proceed with the pro-
gram as outlined in our proposal dated February 19, 1953,
copy of which is attached.
- 2 - The product to be used in the study is type A-3 Silica.
The material will be shipped to us within the next few
days, as the Corporation has ample quantities on hand.
- 3 - It is suggested that April 1, 1953 be used as the date
of the beginning of the Contract.

TMD:gn