

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



DATE October 3, 1975

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

5FJO

Region 5
230 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago, IL 60604

SUBJECT

Environmental Survey - Asbestos
Marion, Ohio and New Haven, Indiana

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NOT COME FROM PPG FILES

Director, Stockpile Storage Division, FSS - FJO

Enclosed is a copy of report by National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of September 12, 1975. This report details results of environmental survey at subject depots. Also we are enclosing a copy of memorandum SPBA dated September 15, 1975 from Chief, Accident and Fire Prevention Branch, Mr. Paul Rasmussen, containing his comments on above survey.

Based on the survey report of NIOSH and comments of Mr. Rasmussen, it is evident that the exposure hazard to personnel handling Asbestos is well below the allowable limits. This is particularly true when handling Asbestos stored in box pallets. We realize that sugar-stacked Asbestos could exceed the allowable limits, if not handled properly.

The following actions have been taken by this office to comply with OSHA standards in handling Asbestos at subject locations:

1. NIOSH approved respirators have been purchased and are being used by personnel at the depots.
2. Protective clothing is available and worn by employees exposed to Asbestos dust.
3. Maintenance and laundering of soiled protective clothing is being handled at the depots.
4. Shower facilities are available at the sites for employees.
5. Signs have been posted on all doorways leading to areas where Asbestos is stored and also posted within the sections. See Exhibit "A" attached. Labels are also available and attached to box pallets when Asbestos is shipped, see Exhibit "B" attached. These labels will also be used when we receive authorization for slipcovering the sugar-stacked Asbestos at Marion, in plastic bags.
6. Vacuum cleaners are used in areas where Asbestos is or has been stored.

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7. All Asbestos wastes are being accumulated in plastic bags pending disposition instructions.
8. Depots have been provided with the following pamphlets:
 - a. NIOSH Certified Personnel Protective Equipment
 - b. Occupational Exposure to Asbestos
 - c. Caution, Asbestos Dust is hazardous to your health

We have also acquired a slide series from the National Safety Council entitled "There's Something in the Air" which we plan to make available to the depots. It deals with the care, maintenance and proper fit of respirators.

9. Arrangements are being made for initial medical examinations of depot personnel in accordance with OSHA requirements.

The only sugar-stacked Asbestos is at the Marion Depot. A total of 45,500 bags are involved. We recommend that a project be authorized to slipcover these bags in plastic, with the work performed under a contract prior to relocating this material to our Casad Depot, as recommended in our Consolidation Report of July 9, 1975.

Your comments and/or recommendations will be appreciated.

John A. Trunda

JOHN A. TRUNDA
Acting Director, Property Management Division
Federal Supply Service

Enclosures

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