FILE NAME: Johns-Manville (JMA)

DATE: 1974-1976

DOC#: JMA339

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Riverside Cement, Memo & Letter with BC Notes

7/6/98:

7/5/98: Riverside Cement

President of Riverside Cement reported hiring industrial hygients at application sites, in hopes of generating data that exposures of workers are "enough below 1 F/cc to convince CAL-OSHA that "medical exams are not required..."

Riverside planned to abandon (sprayed) asbestos if required to provide medical examinations to the workers (p. 2 of Fenner memo to Solon, 8/22/74).

S 36

Johns-Manville

Internal Correspondence

To: F. J. Solon, Jr.

Date: August 22, 1974

From: E. M. Fenner

Copies: R. P. Carter
J. Reis

Subject: CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 2419 -
BANNING SPRAYING OF ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIAL

Dick Carter has talked with Perc Gartly and I have talked with Bill Thurber of Union Carbide concerning the present status of this Bill. Dick and I both received the same information as to the present situation:

(1) The Bill has been passed by the Senate.

(2) The Bill has been approved by the Health Committee of the Assembly and sent to the floor for vote.

(3) The Assembly vote on the Bill will come probably Friday, August 23 or Monday, August 26. The Assembly will undoubtedly vote approval of the Bill. There is no conceivable way with the short period of time remaining that the vote can be significantly influenced.

(4) Senator Marks has announced his willingness to consider amendments to the Bill in the next session of the legislature which will begin shortly after January 1, 1975. The ammendments would exempt from the provisions of the Bill those uses where monitoring has demonstrated no significant amount of fiber release to atmosphere.

Bill Thurber plans to propose to the AIA Board of Directors that the AIA Standards and Technical Committee arrange to obtain the necessary monitoring data and based on this information write a proposed amendment to the Bill. Thurber informs me that he is arranging to monitor spray operations that use Union Carbide's asbestos.

I suggested to Bill Thurber that if the data was favorable and an amendment could be written, that Harry Rhodes of Union Carbide personally take the amendment to Senator Marks' office and discuss it with his people. Thurber was agreeable to this arrangement.

Jim Reis has contacted the President of Riverside Cement. Jim was informed that Riverside has hired an outside industrial hygiene firm to take dust counts at application sites. Riverside expects results from this sampling tomorrow. If the fiber counts are enough below 1 F/cc to convince CAL-OSHA that medical exams are not required (CAL-OSHA has accepted the NIOSH recommendation of medical examinations only required when exposure is above 1 F/cc), Riverside will join in the fight for an amendment to the spraying regulation. If the counts are above 1 F/cc, they will abandon the use of asbestos because CAL-OSHA will require the applicators to have medical examinations.

Ed

E. M. Fenner

977

NOVEMBER 5, 1976

MR. GEORGE BORG
DIRECTOR OF SAFETY
RIVERSIDE CEMENT
P.O. BOX 832
RIVERSIDE, CA 92502

DEAR GEORGE:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE CALL REGARDING YOUR MEMBERSHIP ON THE CALIFORNIA STATE ASBESTOS REVIEW COMMITTEE.

ATTACHED IS OUR SUMMATION DOCUMENT TO OSHA IN ANSWER TO THEIR PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE FEDERAL ASBESTOS REGULATIONS. YOU WILL NOTE THERE IS QUITE A SECTION REGARDING SPUTUM CYTOLOGY. TO SUM IT UP, WE CAN SAY THAT WE ARE OPPOSED TO CYTOLOGY WHEN USED AS A ROUTINE SCREENING TOOL. HOWEVER, IN THE INTEREST OF FURTHERING RESEARCH, WE HAVE EMBARKED UPON A SPUTUM CYTOLOGY PROGRAM AT OUR ASBESTOS-USING LOCATIONS. AFTER SEVERAL YEARS OF THIS IN-HOUSE PROGRAM, WE SHOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLY MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS PROCEDURE AND ITS USEFULNESS IN SCREENING PROGRAMS.

THIS DOCUMENT ALSO CONTAINS OUR ARGUMENTS OPPOSING THE PROPOSED FEDERAL STANDARD OF 0.5 F/CC. I HOPE YOU FIND THIS USEFUL IN YOUR COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS. INCIDENTALLY, SEVERAL WEEKS AGO I DISCUSSED THESE TWO POINTS WITH DR. CLARK COOPER, AND I ALSO FURNISHED HIM WITH A COPY OF THE DOCUMENT.

GETTING DOWN TO THE NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES AT OUR ASBESTOS-USING LOCATIONS, I CAN GIVE AN ESTIMATE, AND THIS IS ONLY AN ESTIMATE. IN OUR CALIFORNIA PLANTS, WE CURRENTLY HAVE ABOUT 670 PEOPLE HANDLING ASBESTOS.

AFTER DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF FURNISHING ESTIMATES OF OUR CUSTOMERS' EMPLOYEES WHO MAY BE INVOLVED WITH ASBESTOS HANDLING, JIM REIS AND I CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION TO SUPPLY THESE FIGURES WITH ANY DEGREE OF ACCURACY. UNDER SEPARATE COVER, JIM IS FURNISHING YOU WITH A CUSTOMER LISTING. FROM THIS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE A ROUGH ESTIMATE.

PLEASE KEEP ME POSTED ON YOUR ACTIVITIES WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE COMMITTEE, AND WE WILL DO THE SAME REGARDING OUR ACTIVITIES WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

BEST REGARDS,

W. B. REITZE
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND QUALITY
VICE PRESIDENT, JOHNS-MANVILLE SALES CORPORATION

ATTACH.

Bcc A Katine III D
R. P. Charlie
T. Ross