

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Scotts.

cc: Sarge Chamberlain

To: Pete Griffin
cc: Al Davidson

From: Gary L. Smith

Env. Environmental

Subject: Virginia Vermiculite Questions

Date: August 13, 1980

1. Rock Content

During January and February of 1980 the rock content of the Virginia ore ran ~20%, and since then has been at ~10%. Was this fluctuation due to the processing conditions or the ore deposit?

2. Fiber Content

Air sampling taken during unloading and transfer of Virginia ore has shown a lower concentration of airborne fibers than western sources. Is this an artifact of the ore deposit or processing conditions?

3. Asbestos Content

A McCrone Associates report (12/3/79) on Virginia ore submitted by Virginia Vermiculite indicated no asbestiform minerals were present. Sample monitoring conducted by Scotts have shown Tremolite/Actinolite (in the massive form) to be present in Virginia Vermiculite ore. Government regulations, to date, do not differentiate between asbestiform and massive types of asbestos.

Is Dr. Sansom aware that Virginia Vermiculite ore samples we have tested contain Tremolite/Actinolite and what are his thoughts in this regard?

