FILE NAME: Owens-Corning (OC)

DATE: 1966 Aug 8

DOC#: OC113

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo RE Kaylo Dust - Bath Iron Works with Handwritten Notes

To Mr. J. M. Briley - Toledo

Date August 8, 1966

From F. H. Edwards - Toledo

cc:

Subject KAYLO DUST - BATH IRON WORKS

Ed - Please write letter to me. JB

Kaylo is principally a calcium silicate matrix with a range of 12% to 18% asbestos intermix.

Calcium silicate is not considered a health hazard but does create dust when cut or sawed.

Asbestos is recognized as a health hazard causing asbestosis. Asbestosis requires 12 years or more of exposure to cause objective symptoms. The threshold limit value set by the A.C.G.I.H. is 5 million particles per cubic foot. However, Dr. Selikoff has stated that only one fiber in the body can cause cancer. In the past few years, medical teams have examined the lung tissue of citizens of Johannesburg, S.A.; Miami, Florida; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at autopsy and found that 30% to 47% had asbestos bodies in the lungs. None of these people were known to have worked in the asbestos industry or mines. Dr. Selikoff claims that the urban atmosphere is full of asbestos fibers emanating from asbestos floor tiles and shingles, auto brake drums, etc. The asbestos industry cannot believe that such a wide asbestos fiber distribution is possible and they are pointing the finger at other fibers as the more probable cause of asbestos bodies.

Asbestos bodies sometimes develop into mesotheliomas, a tumor with considerable carcinogenic potential.

Because of asbestosis (if for no other reason), asbestos fibers should be removed from the atmosphere by adequate ventilation. If ventilation is impossible, suitable respirators should be worn by workmen. At this point, I believe there is reason to question the A.C.G.I.H. threshold limit.

The correspondence does not indicate what readings the Harvard School of Public Health has obtained from their air samplings or what T.L.V. they approved. We should recommend good ventilation and/or respirators.

It is impossible to guess the amount of dust created by the cutting, sawing, etc. of Kaylo. There are too many local factors in-

volved. Bath Iron Works is attacking the problem correctly by consulting with Harvard whose recommendations must be accepted.

Again, I suggest that we consider the labeling of our Kaylo products in the same general way that J-M labels their Thermobestos, etc.

I will be glad to write a letter to A. S. Kevlin about this situation after you have approved this approach to the matter.

F. H. Edwards

FHE:JSC