cc: P&IRD Managers
Environmental Quality
Committee

I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

October 23, 1980

DEPARTMENTAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH MANAGERS

STOPPS MEMO STANDBY

In 1964, Dr. G. J. Stopps of Haskell Laboratory attended a seminar on asbestos-related illnesses and later wrote a memo to the Company's Medical Director suggesting the chemical industry may have a problem with asbestos exposure. He cited concern raised at the seminar about the possible hazards with what had been thought safe exposure levels for those working with asbestos insulation.

The Stopps memo is now part of litigation related to one of our employees and has been used in at least one instance as part of an organizing effort. The contention made in both cases is that Du Pont should have followed recommendations in the Stopps memo, but did not.

This question may be addressed to your site management. As the issue is primarily of a corporate nature and an item of litigation, media inquiries can be referred to me for answering by either me or Dr. Bruce Karrh.

However, local management may be interested in seeing the attached corporate standby for information. There is no Q&A. There appears little to be gained by protracted discussion as to what was or was not done at individual sites in the 1960's to control asbestos exposure, as details, where they still exist, are always measured by today's knowledge and values. Obviously, that decision must be made at the local level.

The attached material complements the asbestos communication package of October 20 from J. R. Gibson.

Roger Morris

ROGER MORRIS

RRM:cf

Attach.

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