



ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF

Engineering

THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
OF MISSOURI
CITY OF JEFFERSON

August 14, 1941

JAMES STEWART, M. D.
STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

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Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corporation
Attention: Mr. Edward C. Ames
Toledo, Ohio

Dear Mr. Ames:

Reference is made to your letter of July 11 in which you raised a question regarding a statement in the second paragraph of our memorandum to Colonel William H. Hartley regarding the work of Dr. J. W. Miller, U. S. Public Health Service on fiberglass.

The quotation in question in this paragraph was taken directly from Dr. J. W. Miller's letter to us. Upon receiving your request for additional information we asked Dr. Miller to make further comment on this subject and we quote the following from his reply.

"The reference in my letter of July 9, 1941 regarding the inert action produced by glass and rock wool refers to the comment you mentioned from 'The Response of Peritoneal Tissue to Industrial Dust.' In other words, we interpret on inert reaction as meaning that the dust may be capable of producing a diffuse pulmonary fibrosis as found in asbestosis while the proliferative group of dusts cause nodular fibrosis. I hope that this clarifies the subject."

"I have never regarded glass or rock wool as particularly hazardous because of their physical properties."

I trust this clarifies the question you had in mind. As mentioned in the report sent to Colonel William H. Hartley under date of June 30th we would not feel that there was any great hazard associated with the handling of fiberglass.

By direction of James Stewart, M. D., State Health Commissioner.

Very truly yours,


W. Scott Johnson
Chief Public Health Engineer

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