



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF MINES

603 Miller Court
Lakewood, Colorado 80215

02081250

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February 27, 1973

File HLS

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
Metal & Nonmetal Mine Health & Safety
Denver Subdistrict

H. A. Brown
Vice President, Operations
Construction Products Division
W. R. Grace & Co.
62 Whittemore Ave.
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02140



Subject: Airborne Dust Concentrations
Zonolite Mine-Mill.
W. R. Grace and Company
Libby, Lincoln County, Montana
January 29-February 8, 1973
By Jack Petty

Dear Mr. Brown:

Attached is a table listing the fiber concentrations of airborne dust concentrations taken during the recent inspection of your Libby, Montana mine and mill. These concentrations are so far above the recommended threshold limit values, as high as 20 times, as to require your immediate attention. These samples represent a marked increase over previous samples indicating a failure of current control measures to reduce dust concentrations at this operation.

Sincerely yours,

D. K. Walker
Subdistrict Manager

Enclosure

cc: R. L. Oliverio, Manager

02081251

Sample Number	Date Collected	Sampling Time		Location and Operation	Fibers/Ml. >5 Microns
		Start	Stop		
1	1-31-73	8:45 am	8:55 am	Dry mill 5th floor sweeping	85
2	1-31-73	9:30 am	9:40 am	Same as above.	62
3	1-31-73	11:10 am	11:20 am	Sweeping 4th & 5th floors	41
4	1-31-73	12:10 pm	12:20 pm	Dry mill 4th floor sweeping	74
5	1-31-73	1:25 pm	1:35 pm	Same as above.	54
6	1-31-73	2:15 pm	2:25 pm	Same as above.	60
7	1-31-73			Sample missing when received by laboratory personnel.	
8	1-31-73	9:50 am	10:00 am	Skipper's shack	0
9	1-31-73	11:00 am	11:10 am	Dry mill 1st floor, maintenance shop	0.7
10	1-31-73	12:25 pm	12:35 pm	Laboratory, furnace room	1.1
11	2-1-73	7:40 am	7:50 am	Conveyor tunnel, storage bins	112.4
12	2-1-73	7:25 am	7:35 am	Railroad loading shed	0.7