

ATTACHMENT III

ASBESTOS PROGRAM

In the late 1970's, as asbestos related changes began to be seen more frequently in x-rays, the company initiated an asbestos program. This program began with Repauno and Chambers Works and in October 1980 was expanded to include all U.S. employees. In May 1981 pensioners were also included. The program had as its objective the early identification of lung abnormalities which could be the result of exposure to asbestos. The program was often called the "asbestos screening program" and involved reviewing the medical histories of all employees and pensioners who may have been exposed to asbestos during their employment.

Under the program, chest x-rays of employees and those pensioners who wished to participate were reviewed by both our plant physicians and board-certified radiologists. Employees 40 years of age or older who had at least 10 years' Du Pont experience in jobs at which they could have been exposed were examined with the x-rays of other employees continuing to be reviewed as part of their regular periodic physical examination.

Ten thousand pensioners chose to participate voluntarily in the program. Employees and pensioners are advised of any significant abnormality and, as a precaution, all work-related cases are referred to a pulmonary specialist at company expense for evaluation and consultation. If an employee or pensioner has a Du Pont work-related illness or impairment from asbestos exposure, the company accepts responsibility for related medical cost and offers compensation the company believes appropriate based on its understanding of the workers' compensation law in that jurisdiction. We

/ benefits to which they may be entitled.

Since the early 1970's, Du Pont has generally not purchased asbestos-bearing insulation. The cases we are identifying currently probably resulted from exposure to asbestos 15 to 35 years ago.

By the end of 1982 with continuing advances in x-ray technology and medical science's increased sensitivity toward asbestos, we are confident we have detected the vast majority of cases which could currently show on x-rays. It is important to note that an abnormality appearing on an x-ray does not mean the individual has or will develop asbestosis.

Through the end of 1982 we have identified 929 employees and 838 pensioners for a total of 1767 who were referred for pulmonary evaluation by specialists. Of this number our physicians have classified 1336 as asbestos related abnormalities. The vast majority of these are classified as benign asymptomatic and are an asbestos-related pleural thickening. To date we have 22 known malignancies (mostly pensioners) and experienced one death in 1978, two in 1980, two in 1981, three in 1982 and two thus far in 1983.

Asbestos awards now represent approximately 50% of our total workers' compensation cases in the company, up from less than 10% in 1979.

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