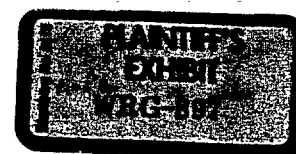




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CONSULTING: ULTRAMICROANALYSIS • MICROSCOPY • SMALL PARTICLE PROBLEMS • SOLID-STATE CHEMISTRY



31 May 1978

06151037

Dr. Julie C. Yang
W. R. Grace & Company
62 Whittamore Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02140

Dear Dr. Yang:

Thank you for your letter of 15 May, and may I apologize for the ambiguities in my reports of 5 April and 3 May.

The portion of the sample which we examined is equivalent to the respirable fraction and represents about 1% of the bulk material. In that fraction we detected about 1-2% chrysotile. In our experience, our preparation method tends to concentrate the fibers in this equivalent respirable fraction, thus if all the fiber is in this fraction it would represent about 1 part in 10,000 of the total sample. If, however, a substantial portion of the chrysotile remained in the non-respirable fraction the level would of course be higher. This situation does exist to some extent in these samples because of the intergrowth with the vermiculite. The extent to which this chrysotile might be liberated, however, can only be a matter for speculation.

I trust this letter clarifies my previous reports.

Sincerely,

Gene R. Grieger
Gene R. Grieger
Senior Research Physicist

GRG:fe
ref: 6877