FILE NAME: Westinghouse (WH)

DATE: 1971 Oct 15

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter to OSHA Reporting High Dust Levels at Plant and Giving Specifics for Inspection

1971
(chemspotash)

Oct.15,1971
529 Playford Ave.
E.McKeesport,Pa. 15035

MUBB-0003524

Hon. George Guenther
Labor Standards Director
Occupational Health and Safety Administration
The Labor Department
Washington,D.C 20515

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT WH 357

Dear Sir:

When the Federal Health and Safety Act was passed in 1970 a newspaper story stated:"Guenther said,however,he will be relying to a great extent,on employes to report safety and health violations."

At the Westinghouse Electric PCB plant in Trafford,Pa. a radial or radiac wheel in TC-20,when cutting or grooving LEVERS,gives off a pollution that is almost unbearable. An aisle draft picks up these fumes and carries into TC-70 and TC-80. Are the fumes toxic? I don't know. No one in the plant is a bio-chemist. What's it like? A pungent undescribable.

When you send your inspector there,tell them in TC-20 to begin cutting LEVERS on the cutting wheel. Then go into TC-80 and before long you will wish you had taken along a gas mask. It's ridiculous to breathe these fumes half the night or day when a large "hood" or outlet re-location can correct it.

Talk to management? I am a sub-division steward on the second shift and have been to the top executives of PCB - two union grievances have been to no avail. The head of PCB,Mel Goetz, told me:"We are waiting for funds.." However another newspaper story featuring OHSA attorney Paul Martha (enc.) reads:"But a company won't be allowed to plead poverty,Martha said,because the law says'an employer doesn't have a right to jeopardize a worker's health." (A few lines in the story deals with "material being cut..")

Send your inspector up to Trafford Westinghouse PCB soon - to TC-20 radial cutting wheel. Tell them to cut LEVERS,then come over into TC-80 and breathe or try tobreathe. We have been after management to correct this situation for a year.

If there is any retailation by the company toward me for this letter you will hear from me again. Please send me OHSA attorney Paul Martha's Labor Dept. address in our area.

Very respectfully yours,
Pete Rotelli

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