

FILE NAME: Powhatan (PHN)

DATE: 1943

DOC#: PHN003

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January 12, 1943

Mr. Fred Mett, Manager
Powhattan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mett:

Enclosed is our report of the industrial health follow-up visit made of the Powhattan Mining Corporation on December 18, 1942.

If there are any questions concerning the report, please let us know and we will be glad to discuss them with you.

Thank you very much for your courtesy and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M.D.
Chief, Division of Industrial Health

SDS/A

January 12, 1943

To: Powhattan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

From: Maryland State Department of Health
Division of Industrial Health

Subject: Industrial Health Follow-up Visit

On December 18, 1942 an industrial health follow-up visit was made to the Powhattan Mining Corporation, Woodlawn, Maryland. Mr. Fred Mett, Manager, was contacted and the purpose of the visit discussed. The purpose of the visit was to find out if the exhaust system for the asbestos shredding plant had been installed and to determine if personal respiratory protection was provided for the workers in the plant.

To date the exhaust and dust collector system has not been installed. Mr. Mett told me that the company had planned to have the exhaust system installed last fall, but that the equipment could not be obtained because the priority rating that the company had was not high enough. However, Mr. Mett informed me that he was trying to obtain an AA-2 priority rating which is necessary to obtain the equipment.

Mr. Mett stated that the dust collector and exhaust system planned would serve two purposes, first, as a plant process in the collection of asbestos dust, and, secondly, to remove the serious asbestos dust hazard that exists in the plant while in operation. He stated that the exhaust system planned by the Kelco Company would exhaust the dust arising from the crusher, elevators and sacking operations. The present collection filter bags are to be removed from the inside of the plant and a filter collection system installed in a housing outside of the plant.

Mr. Mett informed me that all men working in the plant were supplied with respirators and that the men wore them when the plant was in operation. During this visit the plant was not in operation. However, the men were engaged in sacking

loose shredded asbestos and were observed not to be wearing respirators. Some dust is present during the sacking of asbestos material by shovel and respirators should be worn during sacking operations.

Mr. Mett also informed me that some of the dust arising from milling the asbestos had been eliminated by milling the material in a slightly damp state.

After the discussion Mr. Mett was informed that further visits would be made to the plant to observe what progress was being made in installing control measures.

July 3, 1943

Mr. Fred Mett, Manager
Powhatan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mett:

Unless we hear otherwise an industrial health follow-up visit is planned for your plant on Thursday, July 8.

If for some reason a visit at this time is unsatisfactory, please let us know.

Very truly yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M. D.
Chief, Division of Industrial Health

SDS/A

Powhatan Mining Company

ACID PROOF * POWMINCO ASBESTOS * DIELECTRIC

WOODLAWN, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

U. S. A.

July 6, 1943.

Department of Health
2411 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland.

Starling D. Steiner, M.D., Chief Division of Industrial
Health

Gentlemen:

We are in receipt of your letter of July 3.

Mr. Fred A. Mett is at present out of town on an extended business trip, and therefore, we would appreciate your visiting us at the time of his return in late August. Our man in charge of the mill would not be present at the time of your visit either.

We trust you will postpone your visit until this future date.

Yours very truly,

POWHATAN MINING COMPANY

F. M.
Secretary

FEM:PMC

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DIV. IND. HEALTH



No. 18

August 19, 1943

Mr. Fred Mett, Manager
Powhatan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mett:

Unless we hear otherwise an industrial health follow-up visit is planned for your plant on Wednesday, August 25.

If for some reason a visit at this time is unsatisfactory, please let us know.

Very truly yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M. D.
Chief, Division of Industrial Health

SDS/A

Powhatan Mining Company

ACID PROOF * POWMINCO ASBESTOS * DIELECTRIC

WOODLAWN, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

U. S. A.

August 20, 1943.

AUG 21 1943

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DIV. IND. HEALTH

Department of Health
2411 North Charles Street
Baltimore-18, Maryland

Attention: Starling D. Steiner, M.D., Chief Division of
Industrial Health

Gentlemen:

We are in receipt of your letter of August 19, to our
Mr. Fred A. Mett.

As Mr. Mett has not as yet returned to the office,
would it be possible for you to postpone your visit
until he returns: Mr. Mett could call upon his return
to the office.

We regret very much the delay.

Yours very truly,

POWHEATAN MINING COMPANY

F. E. M.

Secretary

FEM:PMC



No. 18

November 4, 1943

Mr. Fred Mett, Manager
Powhatan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mett:

An industrial health follow-up visit
to your plant is planned for Monday, November 8, 1943.

If for some reason this date is inconvenient, please let us know.

Very truly yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M. D.
Chief, Division of Industrial Health

SDS/A

No. 18

November 18, 1943

Mr. Fred Mett, Manager
Powhatan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mett:

Enclosed is our report of the industrial health follow-up visit made to the Powhatan Mining Company at Woodlawn, Maryland. If there are any questions concerning it, please let us know.

Return visits will be made from time to time. If, at any time, we can be of service in regard to health hazards and problems in your plant, do not hesitate to call on us.

Thank you for the courtesies shown us during our visit.

Very truly yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M. D.
Chief, Division of Industrial Health

SDS/A

November 18, 1943

To: Powhatan Mining Company
Woodlawn, Maryland

From: Maryland State Department of Health
Division of Industrial Health

Subject: Memorandum on Follow-up Visit

On November 8, 1943 a follow-up visit was made to the Powhatan Mining Company at Woodlawn, Maryland. The visit was made to determine what progress had been made in the control of hazardous asbestos dust in the plant.

The problem of controlling the asbestos hazard through the installation of an exhaust ventilation and dust collection system was discussed with Mr. Mett. The installation of the system was not done because the plant to date had not been able to obtain priority preference. It is our understanding that priority authorization had been granted some time ago but that under an amendment of August 12, 1943 dust collection systems were restricted to deliveries with preference ratings of AA-5 or higher and that, therefore, the plant had been unable to obtain the equipment.

Mr. Mett showed the Division's representative a copy of a letter from the local priorities office of the War Production Board which stated that it was recommended by the local office that priority preference be granted to this plant.

The War Production Board was contacted by this office and the hazard explained and recommendation made that priority preference be granted.

The Division will be of any assistance possible in obtaining the necessary priority rating for the dust equipment by which the asbestos hazard can be controlled.

November 18, 1943

To: Powhatan Mining Company
Woodlawn, Maryland

From: Maryland State Department of Health
Division of Industrial Health

Subject: Memorandum on Follow-up Visit

On November 8, 1943 a follow-up visit was made to the Powhatan Mining Company at Woodlawn, Maryland. The visit was made to determine what progress had been made in the control of hazardous asbestos dust in the plant.

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