FILE NAME: Flintkote (FLK)

DATE: 1979

DOC#: FLK031

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memos RE Hembrane Filter Method for Evaluating Airborne Asbestos Fibers

~~PP~~ JC

f Asbestos General

Mr. H. E. Beard
Rochelle Park

August 7, 1979

S. Weiss
Rochelle Park

Membrane Filter Method
for Evaluating Airborne
Asbestos Fibers

In reference to the attached letter, as long as the USPHS/NIOSH counting method is acceptable by OSHA and MSHA, we believe the approved method should be used in place of the counting procedure now used for Flintkote tests.

SW:rv
Attachment
cc: Mr. J. C. Schmitt - Rochelle Park w/e

THF
RP-2.5
RP.3

FLINTKOTE
FK-2019-B

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

S. Weiss - for comments.

JUL 23 1979

TO MR. H. E. BEARD
ROCHELLE PARK

DATE JULY 20, 1979

FROM L. A. WILSON
FAIRFIELD

SUBJECT MEMBRANE FILTER METHOD FOR EVALUATING AIRBORNE ASBESTOS FIBERS

I received a copy of the USPHS/NIOSH technical report on the approved method for counting airborne asbestos fibers shortly before vacation and have reviewed it. I bring this to your attention because the method which they detail is markedly less stringent than the one which we have been using. The specific differences call for the counting of a fiber that does not lie completely within the counting area as 1/2 of a fiber rather than as a whole fiber, and the disregarding of a fiber that crosses any two sides, rather than including it in the count. While in any given sample the reported numerical result might be the same, overall, the pattern of results would necessarily be shifted lower.

Therefore, since we are penalizing ourselves by the use of the Flintkote method, and to be in compliance with the USPHS/NIOSH requirements, I suggest that we formally adopt their procedure, and request that you direct me to do so. I should like you to send me a letter for the files to this effect, and I will adopt their method as our own.

L. A. Wilson

LAW:ch

P.S. Should we bring in the Safety Group on this?