FILE NAME: Powhatan (PHN)

DATE: 1941

DOC#: PHN001

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Govt Inspection Reports

Lyon Jack

Lewis Case

Pawhattin Mining Co Material

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

t. Powhatan Mining Co. Location Woodlawn, Balto. Co. Type of Industry Asbestos Treating

8/41 - Survey 12/41 - Study

Employees 14 Source of Visit S.I. Service & Date 9/41 - Study - 2/8/45 - F.U.

F.O.

RECOMMENDATIONS

e of Recommendations	Date	Exposures Involved	Workers Involved	Complied	Date			Workers Affected
Exhaust (asb.dust) All areas ust is created	8/12/41	Asbestosis	~~12~~ 10	No In Process " NO	12/18/42 11/8/43 5/25/44	2/8/45 5/13/46		10 ~~12~~
(phys. exam.) X-ray exam. ough phys. exam.to determine esent health of the men	8/12/41	Asbestosis	~~12~~ 10	No NO NO	12/18/42 11/8/43	2/8/45 5/13/46		
al Protection (Respirators) ployees, in contact with the	12/18/41	Asbestosis	~~12~~ 10	~~Partial~~ Yes	12/18/42	2/8/45		10

3/20/46

FORM C

NATIONAL DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SURVEY

WORKROOM SURVEY DATA

Page 1 of 1

Name of Plant Canadian Mining Co. Industry Code and No

Department D/W 5 S/D 1 Workroom No

Informant's Name Mr. Mett Surveyed by Siegal & Yoffe Date 3/10/41

Occupation	Number of persons M	F	T	Nature of job	Raw materials and byproducts	Exposure code	Control Measures: Pos. Ven	Neg. Ven	Loc. Exh.	Enc. Proc.	Wet Meth.	Gas Mask	Respirat.	Pres. Hel.	Pro. Clo.	Other	Remarks
Total brought forward																	
sorting ore bagging sewing bags loading dry.	6		6	These men do all jobs	asbestos								✓				
Total																	

This plant starts with mined asbestos rock then fibres it, screens asbestos, then bags asbestos and ships it. Men only work here 4 or 5 years at the most. Respirators are furnished but are not worn.

Woodlawn-46

FORM A

NATIONAL DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SURVEY

INDUSTRIAL HEALTH SERVICE DATA

Page ___ of ___

Surveyed by Seipt & Taffe

Name of Plant Johns-Manville Co.
County Baltimore City Woodlawn Industry Code and No ___ State Md. Location ___ Date 3/10/41
Plant Owner Mrs. Matt - Fred A. Matt Address Woodlawn Number of employees
Plant Official Pres. & Mgr. Title ___ Male ___ Female 6 Total 6
Products manufactured or service Asbestos fibre

Safety Provisions

Safety director
Full-time ___
Part-time ✓
None ___

Shop committee
Yes ✓
No ___

Insurance company service
Yes State Casualty
No Etna

Other
Yes ___
No ✓

Remarks

Overtime

Medical Provisions

Hospital
Company ___
Contract ✓
None ___

First-aid room
Yes ✓
No ___

First-aid kit
Yes ✓
No ___

Trained first-aid worker
Yes ✓
No ___

Physician
Full-time ___
Part-time ___
On call ✓
None ___

Nurse
Full-time ___
Part-time ___
None ✓

P.H. ___
R.N. ___
Other ___

Physical examination
Pre-employment
Yes ✓
No ___

Periodical
Yes ✓
No ___

Remarks

Benefits and Records

Sick benefit organization
Yes ___
No ✓

Sickness records
Yes ✓
No ___

Waiting period
Days ___

Occupational disease coverage
Yes ✓
No ___

Accident records
Yes ✓
No ___

Remarks

Sanitation

Drinking
___ Public supply
___ Fountain
___ Individual cup
___ Common cup
Other ~~Piped~~ Well

Washing
___ Sink
___ Other
✓ Cold water
___ Hot water
___ Soap
___ Common towel
___ Other towel
___ Shower

Toilet
✓ Flush
___ Pit privy
___ Other

___ Separate lunchroom
___ Individual locker
Use Boiler House for changing

- This plant is very dusty from appearances. It was not running the day of visit. It is located in an old barn. A new dust collector system is to be installed in the near future according to Mr. Matt.

March 19, 1941

To: Dr. C.E. Halliday, Chief
Bureau of Communicable Diseases

From: Robert H. Flinn, M.D.
Harry E. Seifert, Public Health Engineer

Subject: Industrial Health Inspection of the Powhatan Mining Corporation.

On March 10, 1941, an industrial health survey was made of the Powhatan Mining Corporation at Woodlawn. Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hobbs of the county health department participated in this survey. At this time records for industrial health service data and workroom data were completed. Mr. Watt, President, furnished most of this information.

This company employs six men. Asbestos rock is shredded, screened, and bagged for shipment. At the time of this visit the plant was not in operation.

This plant had an accumulation of dust everywhere and was in need of good housekeeping practice. Mr. Watt informed us that a new dust collecting system had been ordered. The employees had respirators available but they were worn very little. It is recommended that the employees be urged to wear respirators whenever the mechanical operations are generating appreciable dust since asbestos dust causes serious damage to the lungs when inhaled.

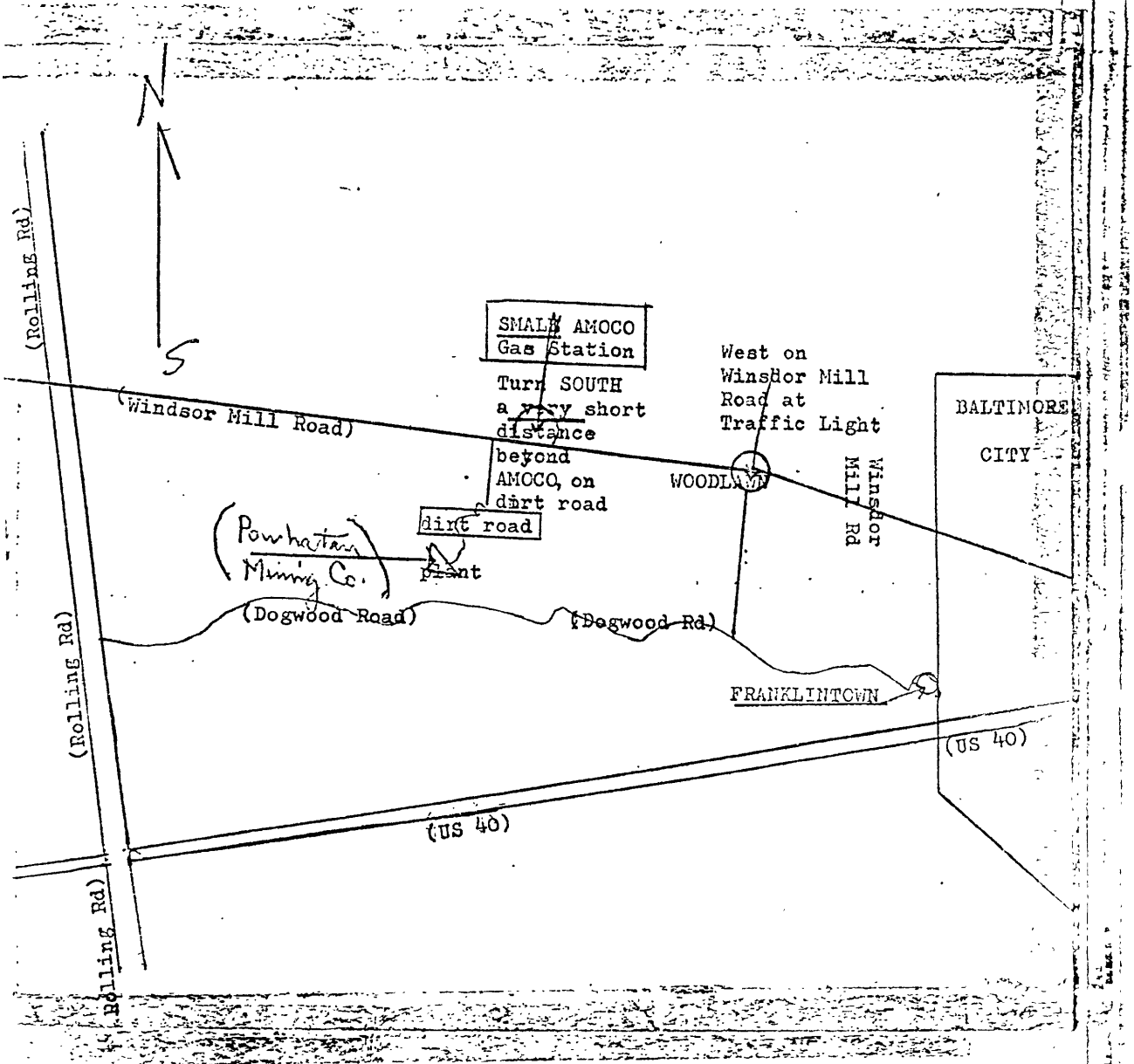
The dust hazard should be controlled by means of enclosed processes or local exhaust ventilation so that average dust concentrations will not exceed five million particles per cubic foot of air, as the U.S. Public Health Service has found that workers develop disabling asbestosis in dust concentrations above this level.

Another visit is to be made to this plant in the near future at a time when all operations are being carried on. Samples will be taken to evaluate the quantity of dust in the atmosphere in order to advise Mr. Watt concerning the need for further control equipment.

Robert H. Flinn, M.D.

Harry E. Seifert, Public Health Engineer

CC: Mr. C.L. Hall
Dr. W. H.F. Barthen
Mr. Watt


N
S
(Rolling Rd)
(Windsor Mill Road)
SMALL AMOCO
Gas Station
Turn SOUTH
a very short
distance
beyond
AMOCO, on
dirt road
dirt road
West on
Winsdor Mill
Road at
Traffic Light
WOODLAWN
Winsdor
Mill Rd
BALTIMORE
CITY
Powhatan
Mining Co.
plant
(Dogwood Road)
(Dogwood Rd)
FRANKLINTOWN
(US 40)
(US 40)
(Rolling Rd)
(Rolling Rd)

March 10, 1941

To: Dr. C.H. Halliday, Chief
Bureau of Communicable Diseases.

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Harry E. Seifert, Public Health Engineer

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Robert H. Flinn, M.D.

Harry E. Seifert, Public Health Engineer

Cc: Mr. G.L. Hall
Dr. Wm. H.F. Wharton
Mr. Mott

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Bureau of Communicable Diseases

March 28, 1941

Mr. Fred Metz
Powhatan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Metz:

I am attaching a copy of the report to the Chief of the Bureau concerning our recent health inspection of the Powhatan Mining Corporation plant at Woodlawn. You will note the subject matter contained therein is along the line of our discussion at the time of our visit.

At that time you were given a copy of the Monthly Bulletin announcing the industrial health program, and containing the regulations promulgated under the occupational disease law by the State Board of Health.

If the State and County Health Departments can be of service to you at any time, please feel free to call upon us.

Very truly yours,

Robert H. Flinn, M.D.

Enclosure

CC; Dr. C. H. Halliday
Dr. Wm. H. F. Warthen
Mr. G. L. Ball

August 13, 1941

To - Dr. C. M. Halliday, Chief
Bureau of Communicable Diseases

From - Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

Subject - Industrial Health Follow-up Visit to the Powhatan Mining Corporation.

On August 4, 1941, accompanied by Mr. Sullivan of the Baltimore County Health Department an industrial health follow-up visit was made to the Powhatan Mining Corporation which shreds, screens and bags asbestos rock. Mr. Mott, president and owner was out of town but Mr. Yocum an office worker was contacted and he took us through the plant.

At the time of the industrial health survey on March 19, 1941 the plant was not in operation and only six men were employed. At present the company employs ten men and is very busy.

This plant was operating during our visit and proved to be very dusty. The management has not realized the dust hazard to which it is subjecting its men. Housekeeping was very poor and huge collections of dust were everywhere through the plant.

There is no exhaust system for controlling the dust hazard. An exhaust system is used as a means of carrying the asbestos from the screening process to a hopper where the material is stored prior to bagging. This exhaust system is production and not dust control equipment. Some of the workmen stated that respirators are available but they dislike wearing them. There are no plant regulations requiring the use of respirators.

Due to the serious effect which asbestos dust has on the lungs of the worker, control measures in this plant are urgent. By either using enclosed processes or local exhaust ventilation dust concentrations all over the plant should be brought to below five million particles per cubic foot of air. Atmospheres above this concentration will cause disabling asbestosis among the workers.

A return visit is to be made to this plant in four to six weeks. Although visual inspiration reveals that the dust concentration is over five million particles per cubic foot, dust counts will be made during the return visit to determine exact concentration.

The men working in this plant all should receive, in the near future, thorough physical examinations with x-rays of the chest to determine if any have been affected by the dust.

Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

SDS/a
cc: Mr. Hall
Dr. Warthen
Powhatan Mining Corp.

August 12, 1941

To - Dr. C. H. Halliday, Chief
Bureau of Communicable Diseases

From - Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

Subject - Industrial Health Follow-up Visit to the Powhatan Mining Corporation.

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Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

SDS/A
cc: Mr. Halliday
Dr. Barthen
Powhatan Mining Corp.

August 12, 1941

Mr. Fred A. Hobbs
Powhatan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

I am enclosing a copy of the report to the Chief of the Bureau concerning our follow-up visit to your plant.

I am sorry that you were out of town, but we are planning to make a return visit within the next few weeks.

In the meantime please consider our report. Asbestos dust in concentrations that exist in your plant is very harmful to the men and if they continue to work under such conditions for some time to come, serious consequences will probably ensue.

I hope that we can be of service to you. If you wish to have us visit you before the four to six weeks, please let us know what date is convenient.

Sincerely yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

SDS/a

CC: Dr. Dalliday
Mr. Ball
Dr. Warthen

August 13, 1941

Mr. Fred A. Betts
Powhatan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

Dear Mr. Betts:

I am enclosing a copy of the report to the Chief of the Bureau concerning our follow-up visit to your plant.

I am sorry that you were out of town, but we are planning to make a return visit within the next few weeks.

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I hope that we can be of service to you. If you wish to have us visit you before the four to six weeks, please let us know what date is convenient.

Sincerely yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

SDS/A

cc: Dr. Halliday
Mr. Hall
Dr. Warthen

September 9, 1941

Mr. Fred A. Metts
Powhatan Mining Corporation
Woodlawn, Maryland

Dear Mr. Metts:

Enclosed is a copy of a report of a quantitative dust analysis of your plant. The dust count taken at various places in the plant signifies that a definite hazard exists. Consideration should be given to installing exhaust systems to reduce the hazard.

At the present time we have several other plants to visit. As soon as we have an open day we will make arrangements with you to visit your plant and discuss measures. In the meantime if the state or county health departments can be of further service to you, please feel free to call on us.

Very truly yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

SDS/A.
CC: Dr. Halliday
Mr. Hall
Dr. Marthen

September 9, 1941

To: Dr. C. H. Halliday, Chief,
Bureau of Communicable Diseases

From: Starling D. Steiner, M.D.
Francis P. Jung, Public Health Engineer

Subject: Powhatan Mining Corporation

The plant at this time was in full operation. Visual inspection showed a general dust condition over the entire plant. The main sources of dust arise from the following four places:

1. Grinding or crushing operation. The operator feeds the crusher by a hand shovel.

2. Bagging operation. Dust arises as men fill and remove filled bags of ground asbestos from ducts leading down from hopper.

3. Dust collection system. This system collecting dust from the screener is filtered through a series of long cloth bags. These bags are located close to the bagging operation on the inside of the plant and are not enclosed, or physically separated from the plant. At the time of this inspection most of the dust was blown through a cloth bag, that was open on the bottom, to the outside air. Much of this dust, as was evident from visual observation drifted right back into the plant through windows. This system is inadequate.

4. Bagging operations located in the basement of the plant. Primary outfall from the crusher is bagged.

The quantitative data secured during this inspection are as follows:

Dust Counts.

1. Taken at the breathing level of bagging operators on main floor. Analysis of sample taken showed 12.8 million particles per cubic foot of air.

2. Taken at the breathing level of man shovelling raw material into crusher. Analysis showed 22 million particles per cubic foot of air.

3. Taken at the breathing level of bagging operator in basement of plant. Analysis showed 18.4 million particles per cubic foot of air.

Note: Only particles under ten microns in diameter evaluated.

After discussing the problem with Mr. Yokum, who took us through the plant, it was decided to visit the plant again and to discuss the problem of dust control with Mr. Mott, president and owner, who was out at the time of this inspection.

Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

Francis P. Jung,
Public Health Engineer

FPJ/A

CC: Mrs. Ball
Dr. Marthens
Powhatan Mining Corp.

December 2, 1941

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

Dear Mr. Mett:

As discussed in our conference yesterday, I would suggest that each man working in the grinding, screening and bagging operations of the asbestos plant wear a dust respirator approved by the U. S. Bureau of Mines. There is a sufficient amount of asbestos dust in the air to cause damage to the lungs if breathed over a long period of time.

It is our understanding that the plant operations are being changed and that a dust correcting system is to be installed. When this is done we will revisit your plant and check the amount of dust that is in the air.

Prior to the installation of the new equipment every effort should be made to see that the men wear respirators at all times and that they keep them clean and in good condition. Permanent damage to the lungs may occur if the men do not follow this advice.

Sincerely yours,

Starling D. Steiner, M.D.

SDS/A