

FILE NAME: Asbestos Cement Pipe and Sheet (ACPS)

DATE: 1967 Dec 14

DOC#: ACPS054

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Unpublished Report - The Cancer Scare,
Asbestos-Cement Pipe

CONFIDENTIAL

*With Contamination
Pipe*

Division Headquarters
December 14, 1967

D. L. Hinmon

The Cancer Scare
Asbestos-Cement Pipe

Today we had officials from Fairfax County, Virginia visit our plant. After we showed them our process and product, they brought out a copy of the articles that appeared in the Nashville papers. They asked what work JM had done to prove that asbestos was not harmful to public health in asbestos-cement water pipe.

We are fairly sure that they received these articles from the Nashville papers from representatives of the cast iron pipe companies. Therefore, it is our belief that these articles will be spread much further by our competition, and that we will need to furnish, as quickly as possible, official statements to our District Managers in the field whenever and wherever this question is raised.

I, therefore, request a meeting of you and Mr. Solon as quickly as possible as to what information we can immediately send to the field. We could keep this information up-to-date as we gain more information on the program that is now underway for the development of more information on this subject.

Hugh Jackson was notified by the Cincinnati Office of the U. S. Public Health Service that they are going to completely investigate this problem and render an opinion. They have asked Hugh what work we have done to help guide them in their work. Therefore, it will also be necessary to set up the best type of communications with these people in Cincinnati for the work that they will be doing to develop their answer.

In addition, I think that we should inform the Certainteed Company, The Flintkote Company and the Cement Asbestos Pipe Company of the information that we have developed so far. Also, to keep them informed of additional information as we develop it. I suggest we phone these companies and try to set up a date in early January for them to come to New York and hear the story that we

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presented to the City of Nashville people. Further, to discuss their ideas on how the problem should be attacked, and possibly for them to share in any costs incurred on the development of the necessary information.

I further recommend that I inform the Sales Managers of these companies (Ed Kock of Flintkote, James Reichel of Certainteed and Lee Taylor of Capco) of our intentions of holding such a meeting and try to arrive at a mutually satisfactory date. At the same time, I would like to inform that we will have an attorney present and a court recorder that will record all of our deliberations, and that we will confine our discussions to this subject only.

MH/jc

M. HARRIS

cc:

C. B. Burnett

F. J. Solon

H. Jackson

J. F. Baker

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