



FOSECO MINSEP INC.

INTER-COMPANY AND INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

TO: G. Cook
T. Hardy

FROM: C. Richard Lynham

DATE: 9/9/77

SUBJECT: Asbestos Substitutes

We should begin immediately to insure that our recipes do not contain fibers which are likely to be restricted in the future by OSHA. It has now been fairly well established that the structure of a particular fiber is more important as a cause of cancer than is the chemical composition. Asbestos has received the most attention because it is the most widely used mineral fiber, but materials which we have accepted as safe asbestos substitutes (wollastonite and fiberglass e.g.) are now coming under increasing scrutiny. It appears quite likely that restrictions similar to those placed on asbestos will be imposed on these as well. The future standard will probably be no more than .5 fibers longer than 5 microns, per cubic centimeter of air.

In preparation for our determining the best approach to handle this matter, would you please prepare a position paper which answers the following questions:

- 1) What are the fibers, and to what extent are they used in Foseco, Inc., that would apparently violate the standard which I have suggested above;
- 2) What alternatives do we have for these fibers;
- 3) What effort and how much time would be required to develop a new series of recipes which do not contain questionable fiber contents;
- 4) What is the current status of legislation or directives on Federal and State levels that could impose these restrictions, and what would be the most likely date by when they would be enforceable?

Your report should be typed, and sent to me no later than October 3rd. As soon as I have had an opportunity to review it, I will convene a meeting of those responsible for effecting any necessary programs to ensure an appropriate and speedy response to this issue.

CRL/bew

CC: R. Jordan
I. Hazlehurst
D. Bryant
T. Honey
D. Adams

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