

MINUTES
Policy Committee Meeting
Environmental Health Task Force
June 16, 1969
Large Board Room

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

JM-1684

DR. GEORGE W. WRIGHT

1. Air Pollution Meeting - City of New York

Dr. Wright reported on June 9 meeting with Austin N. Heller of N.Y.C. Department of Air Resources in regard to possible community air pollution danger. Dr. Wright and six others, including Dr. Selikoff, gave testimony on various aspects of problem. Meeting between members of Mt. Sinai group and Sprayed Mineral Fiber Manufacturers Association on June 20 to discuss problem, with special emphasis on the new World Trade Center.

2. Government Study of Asbestos Textile workers

A problem has arisen with regard to health study of asbestos workers being conducted by PHS with support of asbestos industry. PHS plans to send information on any abnormality they've discovered in an employee to that employee's personal physician. Dr. Wright believes such information should also be sent to the employee's plant doctor. Many asbestos companies, especially in the textile field, might not permit study to continue under these conditions.

3. IOEH Scientific Committee

Dr. Wright reported on a recent meeting of the Scientific Committee of the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health. German mesothelioma study was not approved. Study of workers in New Orleans plants of J-M and National Gypsum tentatively approved. IHF study of trace metals needs re-designing before approval can be granted. Support granted to booklet on world asbestos/health situation.

4. Johannesburg Meeting

Attitude of doctors changing. No longer giving unqualified support to speculations about health effects of asbestos. Dr. Selikoff's studies of autopsied lungs in N.Y.C. cast

MINUTES

Policy Committee

Meeting - 6/16/69

2.

doubt on ferruginous bodies as indication of potential danger to general public.

Dr. Webster said he no longer believed that crocidolite alone was responsible for mesothelioma.

Bronchogenic cancer problem in South Africa is not as great as one would expect.

5. Plant Exchange Visits with Raybestos-Manhattan

Dr. Wright described some of the techniques used by Raybestos to reduce dust in their carding, twisting and spinning operations.

J. B. JOBE

1. IIHRP Activities

J. B. Jobe reported on June 11 Advisory Council meeting of IIHRP. The following topics were discussed:

- a) finances
- b) new combined packaging - mixing unit for asbestos-cement
- c) sprayed mineral fiber
- d) new mask development and testing
- e) dust-collectors on saws
- f) shipbuilding

W. L. VAN DERBEEK

1. Environmental Control Activities at J-M Plants

W. L. VanDerbeek reported on positive results of steps taken in J-M textile operation at Manville to reduce dust. The legal and industrial relations aspects of dust counts and the wearing of respirators by employees in potentially hazardous situations was discussed. Respirators will be required where dust counts are above the new TLV.

Policy Committee
Meeting - 6/16/69

2. WLW also reported on results of personal air sampling dust counts taken at various J-M plants and in adjacent community. Tests showed tolerable TSP at most stations. Tests will continue, including community study at Thetford Mine.

F. J. SOLON, JR.

1. Dr. Wright Thoracic Society Meeting Presentation

Paper on "Asbestos and Health - 1969" given by Dr. Wright at Miami will be used for public relations purposes as soon as it has appeared in medical journal.

2. AIHA Denver Meeting

Mr. Solon, reporting on annual meeting of American Industrial Hygiene Association at Denver, commented on papers delivered by Dr. Fungsock, Dr. Selikoff and Dr. Stokinger. Written transcript of latter's comments on asbestos and health was given to attendees. Dr. Stokinger appears to be new "friend" on the asbestos/health horizon. We will monitor his writings and presentations.

Ivan Sabourin indicated that Dr. Selikoff would be willing to refute Dr. Stokinger's conclusions re asbestos-cement pipe. Further consideration required.

3. Organization - HEW

Mr. Solon distributed organization chart of health agencies of U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Hill & Knowlton has good contacts with most of the people on chart. J-M Washington office personnel would have to develop such contacts. Hill & Knowlton recommends that J-M establish personal contacts between HEW people and J-M people directly involved with environmental health work.

More ...

MINUTES
Policy Committee
Meeting - 6/16/69

4. British Activities

Conference on the Control of Asbestos in the Working Environment being held in London, June 19, dealing with new British regulations and how they will affect industry. 300 people registered to attend. J-M will get sound tape and written transcript of full day's activities.

New shipbuilding codes under preparation in England.

A television program on the industrial hazards of asbestos is being prepared in England.

Dr. Selikoff has written letter to Turner & Newall requesting that Mt. Sinai team headed by Dr. Nicholson visit England to study asbestos work practices. J-M has no serious objections and Solon will convey this to Wilfred Howard, PR Director of T & N.

5. Upcoming Meetings

Mr. Solon distributed calendar of upcoming medical meetings with plans for coverage where required.

F. J. Solon, Jr.

fjs/ab

TO: POLICY COMMITTEE

C. B. Burnett
H. M. Bell
J. B. Jobs
K. V. Lindell
A. B. Marchant
A. C. Smith
Ivan Sabourin
F. J. Solon, Jr.
W. L. Van Derbeek
Dr. G. W. Wright

AP