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OSHA Asbestos Standard Conversation with Bob Bacon on Aug 19



Johns-Manville

Internal Correspondence

To: F. J. Solon, Jr.

Date: August 21, 1974

From: R. P. Carter

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Subject: CLASSIFICATION OF TREMOLITE UNDER OSHA ASBESTOS STANDARD
CONVERSATION WITH BOB BACON ON AUGUST 19

Bob Bacon of R. T. Vanderbilt Co. called me on August 19 to advise me that he received a letter last week from John Stender which contained OSHA's opinion as to the applicability of the Asbestos Standard to talc.

Bob read Stender's letter to me over the telephone and indicated that he would immediately send a copy to me air mail. Stender basically stated in his letter that OSHA's Asbestos Standard applied only to fibrous minerals and talc containing non-asbestiform tremolite is not covered within the Standard. Fibers must conform to the definition contained within OSHA's Asbestos Standard to be included therein.

Bob Bacon acted as if he had achieved a victory from OSHA, but the preliminary data we have received from Research concerning our evaluation of their talc, would indicate contrary. However, Vanderbilt is relying on their own conclusion that the tremolite contained in their talc is "non-fibrous".

As you may be aware, R. T. Vanderbilt recently bought International Talc. Bob Bacon indicated that one portion of an International Talc deposit contains a considerable amount of fibrous chrysotile and anthophyllite, in addition to containing a mineralogical phenomenon, fibrous talc. In view of this finding, Vanderbilt intends sometime in the future to insert an asbestos warning label on talc mined from this portion of that particular deposit. However, they have no present intention of labeling any other talc.

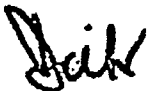
Based on the letter which Vanderbilt received from John Stender, it would be my recommendation that we reconvene another meeting with those individuals who attended the talc labeling meeting on July 24, and recommend that we promptly advise our customers of our intention to label talc and to proceed with such labeling.

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Naturally, we should first carefully review Stender's letter as soon as we receive a copy. It would also be my recommendation that prior to our institution of asbestos warning labels on talc, we should present Vanderbilt with the results of our analysis of their talc and urge them to consider applying a similar label.

In view of the above developments, I see no reason for us to schedule a special meeting with OSHA as was discussed at the July 24 talc labeling meeting.


R. P. Carter

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