

The guidelines provide the basic information needed by the Operating Telephone Companies to develop, introduce and maintain a comprehensive program for protecting employees from occupational exposure to airborne asbestos fibers.

The hazards of asbestos are well documented and universally recognized. Asbestos has been long known to cause asbestosis, and is also implicated as a cause of lung cancer. In recognition of the serious health hazards associated with this substance, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has imposed strict regulations designed to protect employees from exposure to asbestos in their workplaces and work environments. Issued as Section 29 CFR 1910.1001 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the standard establishes permissible exposure limits for airborne asbestos fibers. It also specifies the methods, work practices, monitoring and recordkeeping procedures, and medical surveillance programs which employers must establish to protect employees from excessive exposure to this substance.

The OSHA Standard for Asbestos requires each employer to cause every place of employment where asbestos fibers are released to be monitored in such a way as to determine whether any employee's exposure to asbestos fibers is above permissible exposure limits established by the Standard. If these limits are exceeded, the employer must immediately undertake a compliance program to protect employees from exposure.

In this connection, ^{before instituting such a program, an employer must} each Operating Telephone Company must undertake a program of visual inspection and personal and environmental monitoring to determine whether its workplaces are in compliance with the provisions of this Standard. This program must include Company-provided workplaces in Company-owned or leased buildings. It may also include specific telephone company work operations in customer-provided workplaces where asbestos has been used for general fireproofing and heat insulation. ^{the company must}

indicate that work performed above these limits requires additional controls. does not require exposure to the limits in cases of 1 fiber/fm (OSHA standard).

In all situations where personal and/or environmental monitoring results indicate that employee exposures exceed the limits established by the Standard, the Operating Telephone Company must immediately initiate a compliance program to protect employees from these exposures.

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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

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