PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT WRG-1663

ATTACHMENT A

Dear Mr.

This is in response to your recent inquiry concerning Zonolite® Acoustical Plaster Products and MK-3 Fireproofing which were used in your schools.

These products were a mill-mixed blend of lightweight vermiculite aggregate, air-entraining agents, preservatives and corrosion inhibitors in a gypsum or bentonite binder. As manufactured, approximately 12-19% of asbestos was added to the products. Sales of these asbestos-containing products were discontinued in 1972 and 1973.

In deciding on an appropriate course of action with regard to in-place materials such as these, consideration needs to be made as to the type of product used, the physical condition of the in-place material and the accessibility of the materials to physical damage and dusting.

The Zonolite materials should not be confused with those products which were formulated with higher asbestos contents (up to 50%) and were air sprayed to form a low density, fluffy, lightly bound mat. By contrast, the Zonolite materials were formulated to be combined with water on the jobsite to produce a cementitious plaster-type mixture which set to a relatively dense and durable material, well bonded to the surface to which it was applied.

Because of the "setting" characteristics of these plaster-type materials, we believe that the asbestos fibers are encapsulated in the matrix,and therefore, are not subject to release into the environment.

If, however, the material has been damaged or has deteriorated so that the surface is subject to dusting or flaking, consideration should be given to either (1) removal of the material, or (2) overspraying and sealing of the surface. Enclosed is a list of sealers tested by Battelle Columbus Laboratories to meet EPA regulations.

Since your concern is possible exposure to respirable asbestos fibers which might be released from the material, only on-site air sampling measurements will determine the actual airborne asbestos fiber concentrations. Air monitoring should be done in accordance with OSHA regulations.

Enclosed is a copy of the EPA guidance document "Asbestos Containing Materials in School Buildings". This document provides as much of the background on the asbestos problem in this country along with general guidelines on handling such problems.

Please review the enclosed and get back to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Enclosures