PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
REK-19



55th All-Ohio Safety Congress & Exhibit
April 2-4, 1985

NEW HORIZONS IN SAFETY AND HEALTH

Cincinnati Convention Center
Cincinnati, Ohio

March 27, 1985

Legal Section
Industrial Commission of Ohio
246 N. High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

[redacted]
R. E. Kramig & Co., Inc.
Cincinnati, Oh 45215

Attn: Judy Spencer

Ms. Spencer:

On January 30, 1985, a visit was made to the R. E. Kramig & Company, Inc., 323 S. Wayne Avenue by Ms. Hanan Kerr and the undersigned. This visit was made to obtain information relative to the claimants work history and any information regarding the conditions under which the he may have worked.

According to the claim file, the claimant was hired in 1935 as an Apprentice Asbestos Worker. He remained in this classification for a period of time from between 2 to 4 years and then upgraded to an Asbestos Mechanic. The last 17 years of his employment was spent as a superintendent. While actual company records were not used to compile the claimants work history, no objection was made regarding this information during this visit. It was commented by the company official that the last time asbestos was used for installation was 1960 or 1970. It was also indicated that the claimant, as superintendent, would only occasionally be on a job site. A superintendent would spent most of his time in the office.

Due to the nature of this occupation, and the recent changes in the materials used and work practices, observation of actual work habits were not deemed feasible at this time. Using the work history information, the claimant had a period of time of 25 to 30 years with a significant potential for exposure to asbestos-containing insulation materials. Also according to the claim file, during the period of time the claimant had the greatest potential for exposure (while employed as an apprentice and a mechanic) respiratory protection was neither used nor available. It was also indicated that the claimant was a heavy smoker during this same period of time.

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Asbestos fibers find entry into the body by inhalation and ingestion. The fibers are retained in the body tissues throughout the lifetime of the host, even long after cessation of exposure. Fibers may migrate to other organs following retention in the lung. Asbestosis and certain malignancies are related to exposure to fibers of the asbestos minerals.

Asbestosis is a progressive restrictive pulmonary fibrosis associated with inhalation of asbestos fibers. Malignancies related to the inhalation and possibly ingestion of asbestos fibers by epidemiological studies include carcinomas of the lung, mesotheliomas of the pleura and peritoneum, and neoplasms of other sites.

Asbestos has a synergistic effect with cigarette smoking in producing carcinoma of the lung. Asbestos workers who are smokers have over 90 times the risk of non- exposed non-smokers of contracting lung cancer.

In conclusion, the claimant has been employed in an occupation with a significant potential for exposure to asbestos-containing materials during which time he was a heavy smoker. A diagnosis of asbestosis contained in the claim file from the University of Kentucky would seem consistent with the previous potential exposures and supported in the literature.[1,2,3]

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Taylor

James L. Taylor
Industrial Hygienist

JLT/jt

References:

1. Occupational Lung Diseases, 2nd Edition, W. K. Morgan, M.D. and A. Seaton, M.D., W. B. Saunders Company, 1984, p. 328.

2. Chemical Hazards of the Workplace, N. Proctor, Ph.D., and J. Hughes, M.D., J. B. Lippincott Company, 1978, pp. 112-113.

3. Casarett and Doull's Toxicology, J. Doull, M.D., Ph.D., C. Klaassen, Ph.D., and M. Amdur, Ph.D. (eds), Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., 1980, pp. 270-271.

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