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PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

L. H. Crowell

Meeting of the
Asbestos Building Products
Manufacturers Environmental
Health Council.

April 4, 1968
F. H. Zimmerman

cc: J. W. Dunbar
A. H. Fay
J. P. Hayes

The first meeting of the Council was held Wednesday morning, April 3, 1968, in the Conference Room of Johns-Manville Building in New York City.

The meeting was called by Clifford L. Sheckler, Manager - Occupational Environmental Control, Johns-Manville Corporation. Those in attendance were:

Hert Alpine,
Certain-teed Products Corporation

Stephen Monchy,
Certain-teed Products Corporation

Harry H. Mesler, Jr.,
General Aniline & Film (Ruberoid Company)

William Reines
Johns-Manville Company.

Frank H. Zimmerman,
National Gypsum Company.

Mrs. Clytia Chambers,
Hill & Knowlton, Inc.
(Public Relations Counsel for Johns-Manville)

Mr. Sheckler opened the meeting with a summary of the work that the Johns-Manville Company has been involved in - in Occupational Environmental Control. He gave an up-to-date history of the problems facing the Asbestos industry and expressed Johns-Manville's desire for the immediate industry cooperation in handling what they think is a most urgent problem concerning all manufacturers of Asbestos products.

He then presented the "Recommended Health Safety Practices" proposed booklet that was developed by him and Mr. Mesler of General Aniline. His first request was, basically, asking for complete agreement on this booklet, at this meeting, from all members present. The writer objected to this approach, stating that he certainly had no time to study it - and just thumbing through it - he would have many questions on how it could or should be used. He stated that he would not, at this meeting, make any commitment until after consultation with his company representatives.

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EXHIBIT

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L. B. Crowell
Environmental Health Council

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April 11, 1968

Mr. Sheckler asked if any other members had any comments - there were none - all were in agreement, with the exception of Mr. Alpine who stated that he was in agreement but would like to show the booklet to his supervisor. He stated that he would give a tentative approval of it and would call Mr. Sheckler on the following day. The writer maintained his position and claimed that National Gypsum would have an answer by Friday, April 19; on our position on the booklet.

Mr. Sheckler realized nothing more could be accomplished at this meeting, and suggested that we adjourn. When all comments on the booklet were in, he would clear it for publication with Hill and Knowlton and have a sample printing ready for approval at the next meeting. He also requested that this be a permanent committee that could be called in to discuss problems as they arise.

A summary of the meeting, in the opinion of the writer, is that Johns-Manville will go ahead with this booklet - with or without - industry-wide approval. It appeared to the writer that they are railroading this project, at the present time. It is my firm belief that this booklet should be given thorough study by Sales, Production and possibly Industrial Relations as to all possible aspects concerning our products. It also should be remembered that Federal legislation in regards to Environmental Health and Safety has been proposed by the President, and, at the present time, there are two bills in Congress being debated which would, if passed, have many ramifications in the production and handling of this material. One remark that I think slipped out by Mr. Sheckler was -- "We must protect fiber glass from Asbestos products." It was immediately dropped -- no reason given for the statement nor could I get any.

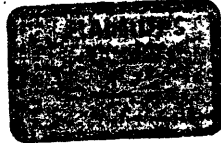
In closing, I would suggest that a meeting of the interested departments be arranged during the week of April 15 to discuss all aspects of this program and committee. I am also enclosing a copy of a brochure that is being given to contractors on Thermal Insulation. Notice the difference in the two booklets. (Written basically by Johns-Manville.)

F. H. Zimmerman
Director of Safety

PHZ:rs

P. S. It might be to our advantage to also have the Company's legal opinion on this type booklet.

*Discussed with Jim Meran
Arvaldim May 4 4/11/68*



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April 17, 1968

Mr. Clifford L. Sheckler
Manager
Occupational Environmental Control
Johns-Manville Sales Corporation
22 East 40th Street
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Cliff:

In the council meeting of April 3, 1968 held in your conference room, it was agreed that I would advise you by April 19, 1968 of National Gypsum Company's position relative to the printing and distributing of the booklet entitled, "Recommended Health Safety Practices."

Our position is that we strongly oppose the publication and distribution of the booklet.

Our reasons are:

- 1) No risk has been shown to the general public from exposure to asbestos cement products manufactured for use in the building and construction industry.
- 2) The proposed booklet points to dangers to health from the handling of corrugated and flat asbestos sheets when there is no scientific evidence of such dangers.
- 3) The booklet creates fear in the minds of buyers, users, and workers without justification. These fears would be damaging to the entire industry.

We agree with the J-M position paper of January 15, 1968, subscribe to the concepts of the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health in Montreal, and are extending full cooperation to U. S. Public Health Service in its study of asbestos in processing plants.

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This strong opposition to the publishing of the booklet has the full concurrence of the top executives of our company, including the Chief Executive Officer.

Cliff, we would be most willing to meet with you and other asbestos cement manufacturers to discuss Health and Environmental problems relative to our industry, at any time.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL GYPSUM COMPANY

Frank H. Zimmerman
Director of Safety

FHZ:mp