

REGULATORY HISTORY OF ASBESTOS
(Chronology)

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
DUP-2674

- May 29, 1971 -- OSHA adopts a permissible exposure level (PEL) of 12 fibers per cubic centimeter averaged over an eight-hour day (12 f/cc). The PEL for asbestos was among the consensus standards then adopted in accordance with the OSH Act.
- Dec. 7, 1971 -- OSHA issues an emergency temporary standard with a PEL of 5 f/cc and a peak exposure of 10 f/cc in response to a petition from the AFL-CIO.
- June 7, 1972 -- OSHA promulgates a new final standard with a PEL of 5 f/cc and a ceiling limit of 10 f/cc. This was the agency's first comprehensive health standard.
- Oct. 9, 1975 -- OSHA publishes proposal to revise the standard for general industry, lowering the PEL to 0.5 f/cc with a ceiling limit of 5 f/cc for 15 minutes. The PEL was proposed as the lowest technologically and economically feasible level then achievable. The Supreme Court decision on benzene caused the agency to withdraw the proposal.
- July 1, 1976 -- The PEL was reduced to 2 f/cc as called for in the 1972 standard.
- May 24, 1983 -- The Advisory Committee for Construction Safety and Health endorsed OSHA's position that any new PEL adopted for general industry should also apply to the construction industry.
- Nov. 4, 1983 -- OSHA publishes an Emergency Temporary Standard lowering the PEL to 0.2 f/cc. The ETS, however, was held invalid by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.
- Apr. 10, 1984 -- OSHA publishes a proposed rule covering occupational exposure to asbestos in all industries governed by the OSH Act (maritime, construction and general industry).
- Sep. 28, 1985 -- OSHA announces plans at a meeting of the Advisory Committee for Construction Safety and Health that it would be issuing a separate standard to cover asbestos exposure in the construction industry.

DUP 0808466

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