

EN-4082 REV. 2-80



E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY  
INCORPORATED  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

CC: B. W. Culpepper, M.D.  
J. F. McAllister - PA  
P. H. Wyche - PA

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

June 8, 1981

GEORGE PALMER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

ASBESTOS COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

(Letter G. Palmer-B. W. Karrh 6/5)

I have reviewed the program detailed in the referenced letter and concur in the Recommendations which are put forth. There are a few comments which should be made. For reference, your format and title will be used.

I. Situation:

We anticipate detecting only about 750 persons with asbestos-related abnormalities which are probably due to Du Pont employment. This will include current employees and pensioners. The same comment applies in II. Background, Paragraph 3.

II. Background:

Paragraph 2:

Comment a:

How much good do we get from having "... the first of its type in the chemical industry?" That can mean we

1. are more enlightened, or
2. have been less diligent in our exposure control and medical detection programs than others.

I am always concerned we may seem too self-serving.

Comment b:

To our knowledge, only Exxon and U.S. Steel have comparable screening programs.

Paragraph 4: (Last Sentence)

I doubt we can ever say we have "... identified all or nearly all of the asbestos abnormalities ...". Medicine is such an inexact science that we can only say we have sufficient programs in place that we believe few cases will go undetected. We don't know the dimensions of the population at risk, so we have to handle each case individually, as we would anyway.

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You and Du Pont. There's a lot of good chemistry between us.

DU 038302

Attachment C:

Paragraph 7:

The next major U.S. occupational health symposium is the American Academy of Occupational Medicine/American Academy of Industrial Hygiene joint annual meeting October 13, 14, and 15. The program is probably set, but we may be able to get on.

The 20th Congress on International Health will be held in Cairo, Egypt, September 25-October 2 and its subcommittee, "Medichem-Occupational Health in the Chemical Industry" will be in Asswan, Egypt, September 22-24. I should go, but I have not yet decided. We could get on either program if that will be the best forum.

MEDICAL DIVISION



Bruce W. Karrh, M.D.  
Director

SWK:ceb

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