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Mr. Philip D. Wilson
Vice Chairman for Metals and Minerals

W. T. Maloy, Director
Cork, Asbestos and Fibrous Glass Division

Reappraisement Planned Facility Projects - Cork, Asbestos and Fibrous Glass Division

Asbestos Textiles Equipment Expansion Program Determination 609

The following projects all come under Program Determination 609 which was initiated for the purpose of meeting increased Navy requirements for asbestos textiles.

We have been unable to obtain any official indication of lowering of these requirements and under these conditions the need for carrying through the various projects is as essential as when they were inaugurated, with some small modifications.

This modification is due to the development of a glass-asbestos cloth acceptable to Navy which enabled the industry to increase yardage with existing equipment and which will permit the Navy greater yardage than planned from the new equipment coming in from the new Determination 609.

As a result, it is our considered opinion that two of the projects, namely; the Fibre and Metal Products, Inc., Downey, California, and J. Franklin Burke & Company, Inc., Northfield, Vermont, which have not been started, can be cancelled without detriment to essential programs and requirements.

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NND 730022
CRMC-M&S-003148

The details of the projects under Program Determination 609 follow:

General Asbestos and Rubber Division, North Charleston, S. C.
WPB-1319 - $75,000
Defense Plant Corporation financing
Completion date - December 15, 1944

Progress of construction - The four new cards will begin to be delivered on October 25, 1944, and at two week intervals thereafter.

Johns-Manville Corporation, Manville, New Jersey
WPB-617 - $85,000
Private financing - 35 per cent amortization
Completion date - January 1, 1945

Progress of construction - These three cards and one frame will be delivered by December 15, 1944.

Philadelphia Asbestos Company, Norristown, Pennsylvania
WPB-1319 - $50,000
Private financing - except for $25,000 Defense Plant Corporation for frames; 35% amortization on part privately financed.
Completion date - January 1, 1945

Progress of construction - The frames will be delivered about November 1, 1944, the cards about December 1, 1944.

Asten-Hill Manufacturing Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
WPB-1319 - $20,000
Private financing - 35 per cent amortization
Completion date - November 15, 1944

Progress of construction - These two single cards are at least 80% complete at the present time.

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Southern Asbestos Company, Charlotte, North Carolina
WPB-1319 - $140,000
Defense Plant Corporation financing
Completion date - January 31, 1944

Progress of construction - These six cards and six frames will be delivered starting November 15, 1944, and continue through January 1945. They are entirely replacements for old cards to increase the efficiency of this plant.

United States Asbestos Division, Manheim, Pennsylvania
WPB-1319 - $95,000
Defense Plant Corporation financing
Completion date - December 15, 1944

Progress of construction - A new addition has been built to house the four new cards and six new frames. The equipment will be delivered as follows: 2 frames October; 1 card October; 3 cards November; 4 frames December.

Fibre and Metal Products, Incorporated, Downey, California
WPB-1319 - $60,000
Defense Plant Corporation financing
Completion date - unknown (after February 1, 1945)

Progress of construction - No work has yet been done by the machine builder toward manufacturing these seven single cards. Fibre and Metal Products Company may have done some revamping of their mill but nothing definite is known of this. Not a major change if any.

It is recommended that this project be cancelled out for reasons previously outlined.

J. Franklin Burke and Company, Incorporated, Northfield, Vermont
WPB-1319 - $71,000
Smaller War Plants Corporation financing
Completion date - February 15, 1945

Progress of construction - The two cards are barely started at present. The frames may be further along. The cards will not be delivered until February 1945.

It is recommended that this project be cancelled out for reasons previously outlined.

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CRMC-M&S-003150

The following is a balance of miscellaneous projects which have been authorized and are now in progress.

Flexitallic Gasket Company, Camden, New Jersey
NC-6871 - Total Cost $80,573
Product - Spiral wound gaskets
Project Approved - September 11, 1944
Completion Date - December 31, 1944
Approved for Tax Amortization - 35% on new Building, 100% on new Equipment and alterations to present building.

Progress of Construction - The applicant let the contract for the job last week, and ground was broken on October 6. Orders for equipment and machinery have been placed and a portion of the building materials have been ordered. Heating and plumbing contracts have not been let.

Justification for completing projects - The subject company has the following contracts, NXSX - 72397, NXSX 73449, NXSX 75512 from the U. S. Navy for approximately 3,475,000 Flexitallic Gaskets to be delivered during the next 9 months. In addition they have orders for about 1,500,000 gaskets to be delivered to various shipyards on such contracts for U. S. Navy end use. The additional facilities covered by this project are necessary if this program is to be met.

The Ruberoid Company, Gloucester, New Jersey
NC-1365 - Total Cost $356,000
Product - High temperature insulation (Calcilite) for U. S. Navy end use
Project Approved - February 29, 1944
Completion Date - November 15, 1944
Approved for Tax Amortization - 50%

Progress of Construction - The project is in the final stages of construction. The completion date has been extended for September 1 to October 1 and for October 1 to November 15, due to failure of contractors in meeting contract dates on delayed phases of the project.

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The Ruberoid Company, Gloucester, New Jersey

Justification for completing project - The material to be manufactured with these facilities is to augment the production of 85% Magnesia and similar materials for the Navy, and will be used on programs which will probably not be cut appreciably after the end of the European phase of the war. There is a backlog of about seven to ten weeks on small sizes of 85% Magnesia Pipe Covering. The smaller sizes of covering will be made on this equipment until the demand is satisfied.

Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation, Newark, Ohio
NC-5943 - Total cost $121,615
Product - 20 mil fibrous glass mat for aircraft radar units and portable communication sets.
Project Approved - July 4, 1944
Completion Date - Extended from 10/4/44 to 12/31/44
Approved for Tax Amortization - 35%

Progress of Construction - Owens-Corning estimates that building is 95% fabricated and 75% erected, and machinery is 70% fabricated and 10% erected.

Justification for completing project - The material to be manufactured with these facilities was developed to resist mildew and fungus growth in hot damp climates such as prevails in the S. Pacific and it is our understanding that a large percentage of the product will be used in that area. The expansion was made at the request of the U. S. Signal Corps to meet requirements of 50,000 pounds per month.

Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation, Newark, Ohio
NC-6424 - Total Cost, $193,817
Product - XAA-PF - Fibrous glass insulating blanket for Army Air Force.
Project Approved - July 15, 1944
Completion Date - Extended from October 31 to December 31, 1944.
Approved for Tax Amortization - 100%

Progress of Construction - Company states that building is 75% fabricated and 75% erected, and machinery is 50% fabricated and 10% erected.

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Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation

Justification for completing project - This project was endorsed by Army Air Forces to make a material which was lighter and more satisfactory as an acoustical and thermal insulation than Kapok for military aircraft. The same material is being manufactured in a pilot plant and 100% of it goes to the Army Air Forces. These are the only incomplete projects except those under Program Determination Number 609 for the expansion of asbestos textile production to meet increased Navy requirements.

The Garlock Packing Company, Palmyra, New York
WPB-1319 - $10,000
Private financing - no amortization
Completion date - December 1, 1944

Progress of construction - The new card feeds will be shipped by Proctor and Schwartz before November 1, 1944.

Justification for completing project - The equipment is practically completed and will increase (per month) Garlock's production by 7,500 pounds of cloth for packings and gaskets.

W. T. Maloy

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