

REDACTED

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH WORKING GROUP
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
OCTOBER 1, 1976

IN ATTENDANCE:

G. P. Bisgeier, M.D. - New Jersey Bell - Medical
J. M. Degen (Secretary) - AT&T - Customer Facilities
K. E. DeGennaro - WECO. - Environmental Engineering and Control
J. P. Dunn, M.D. - AT&T - Medical
B. M. May (Co-Chairman) - AT&T - Customer Facilities
J. F. McCahan, M.D. - AT&T Long Lines - Medical
R. W. Stone, M.D. (Co-Chairman) - AT&T - Medical

MEMBERS ABSENT:

G. R. Crimp - AT&T - Engineering
M. J. Hanley, M.D. - BTL - Medical
G. M. Wilkening - BTL - Environmental Health

GUESTS:

Gordon Orgler, M.D. - AT&T
Regina Cuta, M.D. - BTL
G. D. Kenney - BTL
Francis Forster - BTL
W. J. Schreibeis - BTL
John Stormont - WECO.

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ASBESTOS

A subcommittee met with a representative of the AT&T Legal Department concerning the provisions of the Asbestos Standard. As a result of the meeting a tentative position has been adopted concerning exposure levels that are far below the permissible maximum. Measured levels that are no higher than that of ambient air samples taken at the same time will not be considered as an occupational exposure for purposes of medical surveillance. Measured levels that are higher than ambient should be considered as an exposure, provided that the fibers are actually asbestos. This may entail the frequent need for electron transmission microscopy techniques. Mr. Kenney will pursue the availability of this equipment at BTL as well as other alternatives prior to the next meeting.

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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH WORKING GROUP

MURRAY HILL, NEW JERSEY
DECEMBER 6, 1976

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IN ATTENDANCE:

G. P. Bisgeier, M.D. - New Jersey Bell - Medical
G. R. Crimp - AT&T - Engineering
J. M. Degen (Secretary) - AT&T - Customer Facilities
K. E. DeGennaro - WECO. - Environmental Engineering and Control
J. P. Dunn, M.D. - AT&T - Medical
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R. W. Stone, M.D. (Co-Chairman) - AT&T - Medical
G. M. Wilkening - BTL - Environmental Health

THIS COPY FOR

GUESTS:

J. Cassuto, M.D. - Western Electric
C. H. Steinmetz, M.D. - New York Telephone
F. X. Worden - Western Electric

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ASBESTOS EXPOSURE

Additional questions have arisen regarding the potential exposure to asbestos fibers that may be released from building fireproofing materials (October 1, 1976 OHWG Minutes). Of particular concern is the OSHA requirement for monitoring that states "Within 6 months of the publication of this section, every employer shall cause every place of employment where asbestos fibers are released to be monitored in such a way as to determine whether every employee's exposure to asbestos fibers is below the limits prescribed in paragraph (b) of this section." (1910.1001(f)(1)). This requirement has caused several Operating Companies to ask whether or not they should begin identifying all locations where asbestos may be present in the insulation and subsequently embark on a program of monitoring. It was decided to reconvene the asbestos Sub-Group prior to the next OHWG meeting to consider this aspect of the problem.

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