FILE NAME: Union Carbide (UC)

DATE: 1970 Oct

DOC#: UC034

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Call Report RE Asbestos Toxicology & Various Products

Calidria ASBESTOS

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

C C for
F. Bankert-Moorestown
G. L. Dickson
J. L. Myers
T. P. Norris
H. B. Rhodes
J. A. Riddle
F. J. Shortsleeve
G. L. Vessels
E. J. Kleber
NF-File

DISTRIBUTION
R. A. Rader ☐
R. O. Marsten ☐
R. O. Hopper ☐
E. F. Gray ☐
R.J. Knowlyte ☐
B. E. Utley ☐
R. Gregan ☐
J.M. Andersen ☐
A.A. Andrade ☐
K. A. Wood ☐
G. L. Vessels ☐
K. West ☐
R. Rivera ☐

REPORT OF CALL

By: T. Dougherty

Date: 10/14, 10/22

Full Name: Armstrong Cork Co.

Address:

Mfrs. of:

Interviewed (Give full names and titles)
D.D. Gardiford-VP Tech Ser. ☑
J. W. Wilkinson-Purchasing Dir.
J. M. Robinson-Mgr.-Raw Mat. Pur.
D. D. Browning-Asst. Dir. Research
R. S. Hudson-Mgr. Board R s.
R. H. Byers-Mag. Coating Res.
A. E. Booth-Research

TOXICOLOGY

Hudson, Byers and Booth were all interested in HP asbestos, Hudson and Booth for mineral wool acoustical board and Byers for coating.

However, none of these gentlemen could consider work on asbestos without toxicology clearance from management, ie., Browning who was not there. Our toxicology data sheet was left. Robinson arranged a meeting with Browning for the 22nd.

Dwight Browning gave a flat no on asbestos in mineral wool board, for toxicological reasons:

1. Armstrong and 11 other major manufacturers of asbestos insulation, including JM, are defendents in 3 suits filed by individual members of the Asbestos Workers Union, each having 20 years or more of union service. The union is backing the suits, two filed in Houston and one in Phoenix. Following these preliminary suits, Armstrong's attorneys expect a Class Action suit to be filed in the name of all the union members.

JLM

Robert S. Trigg, head of Armstrong's Law Department would be the man to contact if our legal department wants further details.

2. Until the above suits are settled, Armstrong would not consider new uses for asbestos unless there was some compelling reason.

3. Armstrong has had to adopt stringent, almost restrictive, precautions in their English plant, because of action by the English unions and a British doctor. These amount to the use of protective clothing "similar to space suits".

4. Armstrong is not only concerned about asbestos in their plants, but in their products - even to the point of dust wearing off vinyl asbestos floor tile.

5. Their present emphasis is to try to "eliminate asbestos wherev possible".

A07092

Dwight agreed that there was much hysteria and over-reaction on the asbestos question - but pointed out it was an atmosphere in which they had to operate until clarified.

Harry Rhodes Toxicology Status report was reviewed, particularly Dr. Selikoff's verdict that cancer is not caused by products where asbestos is bonded into the material. Dwight agreed that asbestos bonded into paints or plastics might be OK.

WET END - Insulation Board

Armstrong now uses no asbestos in their mineral wool insulation board, unlike some other producers. As discussed above, there is no chance of even trying asbestos in this application. The board is made at their Pensacola mill. Brochures will be sent to Hudson for possible future use.

COATING AND PAINT

Dwight Browning will probably agree to work in coatings, paint or plastics. Byers and Booth will receive the coating brochures. We hope to introduce the paint data through Robinson when it comes out next month.

CAB-O-SIL

Data on RG-144 and 244 will be sent to Robinson for consideration as Cab-O-Sil substitutes.

PAPER

Armstrong purchases paper for incorporation into some of their products. Data on HP and T-135 will be sent to Robinson for his transmittal to John Baymiller, who works in this area.

A07093