

JANUARY 31, 1970

Dr. IRVING J. SELIKOFF
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
LABORATORY
MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
FIFTH AVENUE AND 100TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10029

DEAR DR. SELIKOFF:

ABOUT A YEAR AGO THE MEMBERS OF THE SPRAYED MINERAL FIBER MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, AS WELL AS OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, SUCH AS THE NEW YORK CITY PLASTERERS ASSOCIATION, BECAME AWARE OF THE POSSIBLE HEALTH HAZARDS IN THE USE OF PRODUCTS CONTAINING ASBESTOS. BECAUSE OF THIS WE INITIATED A PROGRAM OF COOPERATION WITH THE INSULATION INDUSTRY HYGIENE RESEARCH PROGRAM AT MT. SINAI HOSPITAL AND ALSO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE FUNDING OF THIS RESEARCH PROGRAM.

OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS INTENSIVE WORK HAS BEEN GOING ON WITH THE I.I.H.R.P., ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS, ENGINEERS, GENERAL CONTRACTORS AND SUB-CONTRACTORS AND LOCAL CODE AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN VISITED TO EXPLORE THE SOLUTION TO THIS POSSIBLE PROBLEM IN MANY CITIES OF THE COUNTRY.

URING THESE MONTHS AND AFTER MANY IMPORTANT MEETINGS, THE FOLLOWING MEASURES ARE BEING CONSIDERED FOR ULTIMATE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM:

I) APPROPRIATE ENCAPSULATION PROCEDURE TO OBVIATE POSSIBLE AIR POLLUTION IN THE PROCESS OF INSTALLATION AND CLEAN UP.

II) RELATIVE TO THE POSSIBLE HEALTH PROBLEM THE FOLLOWING ARE BEING INVESTIGATED TO PREVENT, MINIMIZE AND POSSIBLY ELIMINATE POTENTIAL HAZARD BY THE INDUSTRY.

A) PREPARATION OF MATERIALS BY ALL MANUFACTURERS TO CUT DOWN ON POTENTIAL DUST GENERATION BY THE USE OF PROPER DE-DUSTING AGENTS.

B) PROPER CONDITION OF APPLICATION EQUIPMENT INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED SPRAYING NOZZLES, ETC.

JANUARY 31, 1970

DR. IRVING J. SELIKOFF

PAGE -2-

C) APPROPRIATE APPLICATION PROCEDURE (WATER TO FIBRE RATIO, PROPER ATOMIZATION OF WATER, ETC.)

III) EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN THIS RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE IS PROPER CLEANING METHODS. OUR INVESTIGATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONSIDERS THE FOLLOWING:

- A) WETTING DOWN OF WASTE MATERIALS ON FLOORS, ETC., BEFORE ACCUMULATION.
- B) DEPOSITING ACCUMULATED WASTE MATERIALS IN APPROPRIATE COVERED CONTAINERS FOR REMOVAL FROM JOB SITE.
- C) PROPER CLEANING OF ENCLOSURE TARPS BEFORE THEY ARE MOVED TO NEXT LEVEL AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NON-STICKING PLASTIC TARPS.
- D) DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED PERSONAL RESPIRATORS FOR MEN INVOLVED IN SPRAYING OPERATION.

IT IS MOST IMPRESSIVE TO VIEW THE CONCENTED INTEREST ON THE PART OF ALL SECTORS OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND THE UNIVERSAL ATTEMPT TO SOLVE ANY POTENTIAL PROBLEMS RELATIVE TO BOTH HEALTH AND AIR POLLUTION ASPECTS. WE STRONGLY FEEL THAT THESE EFFORTS WILL ATTAIN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS BEFORE VERY LONG.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

SPRAYED MINERAL FIBER MFRS. ASSOC.

HLL/16

H. L. LEVINE,
PRESIDENT