FILE NAME: Asbestos Textile Product Use (ATPU)

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SWEDISH EMBASSY

December 8, 1988

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Dr. Grace Ziem, M.D.
Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
615 North Wolfe Street
Baltimore, MD 21205

Dear Dr. Ziem:

Referring to our conversation on asbestos used in industrial clothing in Sweden I am sending you a copy of a cable from the National Board of Occupational Safety and Health, NBOSH, sent in response to my questions to them. ./.

The answer is (my translation):

"The basic regulation - which is stipulated in paragraph 3 of the Asbestos Ordinance (AFS 1987:23) rules that asbestos and material containing asbestos cannot be used. Thus protective clothing containing asbestos must not be used.

The employer can, according to paragraph 4 of the Ordinance, apply for a special permission to use asbestos or material containing asbestos for certain types of jobs. Permission will be granted only if it is not possible to use material that is less hazardous to the health and if spreading of dust containing asbestos is prevented. So far NBOSH has not had a reason to review the issue regarding use of protective clothing containing asbestos since no application for such a permission has been received."

December 8, 1983

Enclosed you will find a copy of AFS 1981:23. ./.

If I can be of further help do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Bengt Gustafsson, Ph.D.
Attache for Working Environment

Encl.: AFS 1981:23
Telex