FILE NAME: AT&T and other Phone Companies (ATT)

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March 26, 1970

Re: Asbestos Health Information Article

Recent articles in Metropolitan New York newspapers and on television have highlighted the potential health problems associated with the misuse of asbestos - a widely used insulation material. In fact, one article emphasized that this material is being widely used in the construction of the World Trade Center and hence may present a health problem to employees working in the downtown area.

The purpose of this article is to provide some information on this subject.

There is no question that medical research has established a causal relationship between cancer and overexposure to asbestos dust for extended periods. Studies have demonstrated that two factors common in most cases of the lung disease known as asbestosis are: long term exposure (many years) and an extremely high concentration of asbestos dust and fibers.

Asbestos has been used widely for years by the construction industry in public buildings, furnaces, boilers and firefighting equipment. Asbestos is the major component used in brake linings for automobiles, trucks, buses and trains. It is being used at the World Trade Center as an insulating material.

We have been told by authorities responsible for the safety operations at the World Trade Center that their method of applying asbestos as a fireproofing material has been approved by the New York City Health Department and the Air Pollution Control authorities. Health Authorities have been periodically sampling the air around the World Trade Center to check on the safety of the operation.

In our opinion the present situation does not represent any health hazard for Bell System employees working in this area. We will continue to maintain careful surveillance of the situation.

J. G. Wall, M.D.
Medical Director-General Departments

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EXHIBIT
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