



Bell Laboratories

600 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, New Jersey, 07974
Phone (201) 582-3000

March 21, 1980

Mr. Raymond E. Clark
New England Telephone Company
185 Franklin Street
Room 1503
Boston, Massachusetts 02107

Dear Ray:

The three bulk samples you sent to Mr. W. J. Schreiber have been analyzed for asbestos. All samples were analyzed by both x-ray diffraction and dispersion staining microscopy. The results are as follows:

Station Protection Backboard

Analysis by x-ray diffraction revealed that the major crystalline component of the backboard is chrysotile asbestos. Dispersion staining optical microscopy showed many birefringent fibers with the optical and morphological characteristics of chrysotile asbestos.

Duct Insulation, Basement - 770 Elm Street, Manchester,
New Hampshire

Analysis by x-ray diffraction revealed that the major crystalline component of this insulation is an amphibole form of asbestos, probably Cumingtonite-grunerite. Cumingtonite-grunerite asbestos is the mineralogical term for the commercial material commonly known as "amosite". Dispersion staining optical microscopy showed many birefringent fibers with the optical and morphological characteristics of asbestos.

Heat Shield Blanket

Analysis by x-ray diffraction revealed that the major crystalline component of the heat shield blanket is chrysotile asbestos. Dispersion staining optical microscopy showed many birefringent fibers with the optical and morphological characteristics of chrysotile asbestos.

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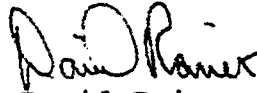
Mr. R. E. Clark - 2

Regarding your question as to whether or not the blanket is breaking down, I would say yes. Asbestos fibers were easily removed from the blanket and any shaking released fibrous material.

Federal regulations have placed limits on the use of products or materials which contain or are made of asbestos because of the carcinogenicity associated with this material. Because of the health risks associated with the use of asbestos, it is recommended that the use of asbestos containing blankets be discontinued and the blankets be properly disposed of.

The existing asbestos blankets should be disposed of by placing them in heavy plastic bags and tying the end. Individuals performing this task should wear a respirator to prevent inhalation of free asbestos fibers. Plastic bags containing the asbestos blankets should be removed to an approved sanitary land fill suitable for disposal of this material.*

If you have any further questions regarding handling and disposal of this material, please give me a call at (201) 582-7512.



David Rainer
Field Industrial Hygienist

MH-8685-DR-sma

Ref: 1143

Copy to
R. E. Finn, M.D. - NET
J. D. Ludwig

R. L. Beach - AT&T
N. J. DeCapua
J. M. Degen
R. W. Stone, M.D.

W. J. Schreibeis
G. M. Wilkening



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* These handling and disposal practices are consistent with those recommended by AT&T in SL:RL 78-12, Disposal and Removal of Asbestos Gloves.

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