

March 21, 1991

To: J. A. Aaron

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From: E. Vicknair, Jr.

Subject: Concerns with Olshan and Superior Systems asbestos removal/abatement procedures on B-11 boiler removal job.

Jeff,

On Wednesday, March 20, 1991, at B-11, I observed at the three different times the improper handling of asbestos material:

1. Superior Systems personnel were working inside a designated, roped-off asbestos area. They were wearing coveralls while handling asbestos bags but were not wearing respirators.
2. Superior Systems personnel were using a passenger van to haul asbestos-containing bags from one location to another. The person loading the bags was not wearing a respirator. When the van was backed-up to the dumpster it was unloaded by personnel not wearing coveralls or respirators. The same van is used to carry personnel and lunches between the worksite and Security Station C.
3. Superior Systems personnel were seen removing asbestos from large lines using a glove bag. The wrong procedures were being applied. Bags were being dropped from one level to another. Superior Systems personnel would take their respirators off while removing asbestos containing material.
4. Olshan personnel were cutting plates on #8 boiler with a torch. Asbestos was located behind the plates of the boiler. When oxygen was applied to the torch, metal slag and asbestos were sent airborne into the atmosphere. The personnel were wearing respirators

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only and no monitors were being worn. The personnel were not wearing coveralls. At a meeting with Olshan and Superior Systems supervisors in January, 1991 they were told that the personnel would be required to wear protective clothing. They did not wear coveralls at the start of this job and were not wearing any on March 20, 1991 while working on #8 boiler.

- 5. It appears that Olshan and Superior Systems are not providing adequate shower and change room facilities for the size of this job.
- 6. It has also been observed that the Superior Systems personnel were wearing coveralls over their street clothes and not taking showers after working in negative pressure, asbestos-containing enclosures. There is not enough water heating equipment on the job to provide the personnel with ample hot water for showers. It is difficult to believe the personnel are taking cold showers when the temperature outside is 40F. Their enclosures appear to be poorly constructed.
- 7. The negative air machines are not set-up or sized properly.
- 8. There is no industrial hygienist on this job for Superior Systems. They monitor and send-off their results to be read. It takes about 2 days to get the results back to the Olshan foreman. A job this large should have an industrial hygienist on the jobsite reading samples and giving results within 2 hours so that the equipment and types of respiratory protection can be adjusted for the fiber count showed by the monitor.
- 9. The overall management of the asbestos abatement portion of the job by Superior Systems seems to be lax and incomplete.



Conclusions:

I recommend someone in charge of asbestos procedures for Union Carbide investigate this job for proper procedure compliance, proper training, and proper medical records and record keeping as required by OSHA.



E. Vicknair, Jr.