FILE NAME: Talc (TALC)

DATE: 1975 Apr

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letters between, J-M, Windsor Minerals, Inc. & the Illinois EPA

WINDSOR MINERALS INC.

P.O. Box 680 Windsor, Vermont 05089

April 16, 1975

Johns-Manville Products Corp.
Waukegan,
Illinois 60085

Attn: Mr. Peter Nicoli
Roofing Supt.

Dear Mr. Nicoli:

I am attaching a letter from The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency which I believe will be of interest to you and should be in your files.

This was a difficult situation to resolve and the regulations need amendment but we are glad to be able to provide you with this assurance of quality.

We thank you for your confidence in, and use of our product.

Yours very truly,

WINDSOR MINERALS INC.

Roger N. Miller
President

RNM:rg
Enc. EPA Letter

AA1110

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
2200 Churchill Road
62706
Springfield, Illinois
Phone: (312) 793-4966

Reply to:

Dr. Richard H. Briceland, Director

Environmental Protection Agency
Div. of Air Pollution Control
Naval Armory
East Randolph at the Lake
Chicago, Illinois 60602

April 10, 1975

Windsor Minerals Company
P. O. Box 680
Windsor, Vermont 05089

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Attn: Mr. Roger Miller-President

Dear Mr. Miller:

As you know the State of Illinois E.P.A. has collected samples of talc in many manufacturing plants during the last year. These samples would be routinely forwarded to our laboratory with a request to analyze the samples for asbestos.

Three of the Windsor talc samples, collected from local roofing material plants, were reported as definitely containing a form of asbestos. At this time the E. P. A. did not have an electron scanning microscope and had to rely on the electron microscope work of the University of Illinois.

During a series of telephone calls to our local office you seriously objected to these findings and it was decided to have a meeting in Chicago to resolve the issue.

During the meeting Ian Stewart of Walter C. McCrone Associates, Inc., presented clear and logical reasons why talc can be mistaken for asbestos. It was then decided to resolve the issue by taking two random samples from local plants and presenting a portion of each sample to McCrone and our laboratory. In this way any discrepancy in the results could be resolved between the respective technicians and hopefully a uniform opinion would result.

As you know McCrone was prompt in reporting their results. Our own results were delayed pending the final installation and debugging of the E.P. A.'s new electron microscope.

We would like to report that both laboratories have found no asbestos in the random talc samples. We would also like to express our regrets to you and your customers for any inconvenience which our initial findings may have caused. I am sure you know that we were proceeding in good faith and did not have good reason to doubt the original findings of our laboratory and the University of Illinois.

We do intend to continue random sampling of talc in this region. At this point in time we feel that our laboratory does have the capability to do this work and problems such as the one enumerated above will not occur in the future.

If you have any further questions on this matter, please feel free to contact our Chicago Office.

Very truly yours,

Martin J. Sheahan
Sub-Unit Supervisor

MJS:ek
cc: Fry Roofing Company - Mr. D. Foster
Flintkote - Mr. J. Butera
Certain - Teed - Mr. W. J. Neville