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File Copy

Inter Office

Personnel and
Organization Staff

Mr. J. Wilson, Manager
Sharonville Transmission Plant

November 8, 1978

cc R. Klingenberg, M.D.
M. Lindsey
R. Shaw

Subject: Employee Exposures to Airborne Asbestos

An industrial hygiene study was performed at the Sharonville Transmission Plant to evaluate employees' exposure to airborne asbestos. Request for and assistance during the study was received from J. Granger, Safety Engineer. The purpose of the study was to determine if medical monitoring of employees working with asbestos is required. Guidelines defining when medical monitoring is required were established in a letter by D. Block, M.D., Corporate Medical Director, dated May 2, 1978.

The following operations were evaluated:

- . Assembly of Reactor Converter
- . Installation of Front and Servo Pump gaskets
- . Handling of above described gaskets during stocking of assembly line
- . Unpacking of clutch discs

None of the above described operations except the unpacking of the clutch discs generated any detectable levels of asbestos. During the unpacking of clutch plates, the employee exposure to airborne asbestos was found to be 0.13 fibers of asbestos per cubic centimeter of air (f/cc). This airborne concentration level is well within the permissible exposure level which was established to protect against asbestos and reduce to an acceptably low risk the development of neoplasms. Medical monitoring is another safeguard to provide for early detection of health problems. It does, however, exceed the 0.1 f/cc guideline at which medical monitoring is required. Therefore, medical monitoring must be done on all employees performing this operation. The specific medical examinations required are described in the Federal Register Section 1910. paragraph (j).

No detectable airborne asbestos exposures to the other employees were found and medical monitoring is not required for these employees.

To eliminate the asbestos exposure during the unpacking of clutch discs, it is

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suggested that two avenues be investigated.

- Purchase clutch discs which do not contain asbestos. Discs of this type, not necessarily the same part, were being used at the Fairfax Transmission Plant.
- Purchase the discs pre-oiled, this will control dusting and should greatly reduce airborne asbestos levels. This operation must be restudied before medical monitoring is eliminated if this alternative is chosen.

L. Keith Lee
Industrial Hygienist
Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology
Department

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Attachment

DATA SHEET
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SERVICES SECTION
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE AND TOXICOLOGY DEPARTMENT
EMPLOYEE HEALTH SERVICES

SHARONVILLE TRANSMISSION PLANT

August 21, 1978

8 Hour Time-Weighted
Average Exposure Level

Asbestos.

2 fibers per cubic
centimeter of air

RESULTS

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Soc. Sec. #</u>	<u>Operation</u>	<u>Airborne Asbestos Exposures f/cc</u>
M. Taylor	288-68-8801	Clutch Plate Unpacking	0.13**
R. Stamper	281-30-2356	Assembly of Reactor Converter	N.D.*
G. Gardner	298-58-1534	Stocking Final Assembly Line	N.D.*
G. Jones	275-58-7049	Installation of Front Pump & Gasket	N.D.*
R. Ralston	293-52-7849	Installation of Servo Pump & Gasket	N.D.*

N.D. = non-detectable

* No asbestos fibers detected above blank of 3000 fibers

** In excess of airborne concentration requiring medical monitoring

Laboratory: Clayton Environmental Consultants

Data Retrieval Numbers: LXL 630-634