

September 20, 1971

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ROCKDALE NOTES - September 13-17, 1971

Discussion with T. B. Bonney, Sept. 20, 1971, 12:00 Noon, via phone

1. Room 20, Line 5, E end

Bath crushing and metal pad melting in the courtyard beside this room.

Fine dust (crushed bath) of 1-3" deep covers yard and is airborne whenever lift truck, or regular truck, moves in area. Wind can also swirl dust into air and if draft is correct, into pot room.

Crane driver in Room 20-Line 5 has complained frequently about fumes, dust, etc.

Standing in vent of Line 5 opposite this crusher can feel and see the fines when a truck passes by in the courtyard.

Metal melting - 3 units - odor of melting Al and Bath - F⁻ - to pot room.

Dan B. is to check urinary F⁻ values of those who work in this area, especially crane drivers.

2. Lines 7 and 8 - with cellars

The cellars of both lines are a mess. Pads of metal up to 2 ft. thick cover many of the shoots from pot breakdown - bath and pots litter the area along with debris. Originally they had placed at doors on the exits of the shoots to reduce the ventilation from up under the pots. Hot metal has destroyed many of these, melting off bottom or containing the molten metal, allowing it to solidify. Because of the metal pads, ore and bath, etc. in the courtyard, after a rain there are puddles of H₂O. When the hot metal of a break hits this, it explodes and metal is seen all over the walls, etc.

This could be a serious hazard should an employee be near the ventilator above.

3. Marinite Handling

Machine Shop has excellent hooding and exhaust on the machines used for Marinite work. While not working during inspection, no evidence of dust was noted anywhere in the room. Excellent housekeeping.

In the Carpenter Shop where the large sheets of Marinite are cut to rough size, an exhaustor is attached to the saw but is not an efficient collector. A redesign is in process to improve the collection at this point. Men who saw use dust respirators at all times when handling the Marinite.

ARD 043614

FOX 042280

4. Mold Lining Area

A mixture of J.M. No. 352, Asbestos Sheets, 50# bag is mixed in a muller with Ciment Fondu, a high alumina cement and water to form a cement to line the molds.

The gasoline driven muller is presently located outside of the building. This muller is new; formerly the cement was mixed in a wheelbarrow inside the building in front of an exhaust. However the exhauster did not have sufficient suction and the materials escaped into the room.

Observation of the use of the muller outside showed excessive dusting of the asbestos when the 50# sack is dumped into the muller. The fines drifted into the building on air currents.

It is noted that during the winter months or rain the operation will have to be brought inside.

Engineering is redesigning the exhaust system at the present time.

The bags of asbestos are stored in the building and are subject to breakage and subsequently become airborne.

One of the operators has suggested a separate shed structure be tacked on the present building in which the asbestos materials can be stored and the cement mixed. This would isolate the problem. This room would have a special exhaust at the muller (converted to electric motor) and the helper would wear respirators.

Al Menke is on this project and will require assistance in making changes, especially in the tight money situation.

Removal of used mold lining - area between buildings.