



A/C Pipe
Producers Association

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

CAP-571

copy. 12-11-80
Internal Correspondence

TO: Public Affairs Committee
International Affairs Committee

FROM: *J. F. Welch*
J. F. Welch, Director, Public Affairs

DATE: November 12, 1980

SUBJECT: Field Problem - San Antonio, Texas

REF: Regulatory Affairs, Field Problems and Asbestos Research Report, October, 1980

ACTION REQUIRED: *Review for information and dissemination*

Enclosed is correspondence from the Acting Chief, Water Supply Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 to Robert Van Dyke, General Manager, San Antonio Water Board describing the Region's position on the potential health risks of A/C pipe. This opinion is not dissimilar from that of EPA Region 4 (previously routed) in that it is stated that the use of A/C pipe in non-aggressive waters, i.e., Aggressive Index greater than 12.0, represents the lowest health risk of all pipe materials.

Also enclosed is a press release made by the City Water Board on receipt of the EPA letter.

Staff recommends that the Region 6 letter be disseminated to field sales personnel for use in counteracting field problems.

JFW/ajb

Enclosures

cc: A. Kahn, Esq.
N. Rahn, Esq.
B. Pigg (AIA/NA)
N. Battle (L&G)

copies to: Public Affairs Committee

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FROM: CITY WATER BOARD

10/10/80

(Jack Mullen, Brooks & Associates, 227-3454)

Asbestos cement pipe used by the City Water Board in its water distribution system represents the least health risk to customers, according to a letter received by the utility from the Environmental Protection Agency's regional office in Dallas.

Replying to a request from Robert P. Van Dyke, CWB general manager, seeking EPA's opinion on acceptable water pipeline materials, Mac A. Weaver, the region's acting chief of water supply said:

"Extensive evidence indicates that in systems having an Aggressive Index (AI) greater than 12.0, asbestos cement pipe does not dissolve and thereby release asbestos fibers. Such material does represent the lowest health risk pipe material for non-aggressive waters according to the best information available to us at this time."

Van Dyke explained that using this Index San Antonio's water is classified as mildly aggressive to non-aggressive and is suitable for pipelines made of asbestos cement.

He said CWB will continue its investigation of materials being used in the utility's water distribution system to insure they meet all existing regulations and present the least health risk to water users.