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A. W. Sterrett

June 27, 1968

E. D. Lovick

O. F. Stewart

On June 25 and 26 we were visited by Mr. Jeremiah Lynch, Industrial Hygienist and Engineer from the U. S. Public Health Service, Cincinnati, and Mr. Ken Kronoveter from the U. S. Public Health Service in Salt Lake City, but who is currently on loan to the Montana State Board of Health. While here they conducted numerous dust studies and readings in our mill and throughout the entire operating area. We will receive a report on their visit.

There is considerable interest and attention being given to asbestos throughout the entire country, as you know, endeavoring to establish its effects, if any, on those who have or have had an exposure to the mineral. Most attention has been directed to exposure to the chrysotile mineral because it is much more common than the tremolite which we have in our deposit. However, there are tremolite types in some of the talc operations throughout the country.

They are presently in the process of assembling a list of some 30,000 people who have had employment within the asbestos industry and have had exposure to the mineral. This will be sent to the Social Security Administration headquarters and they will receive back a listing of those people who have either died or filed for social security under the disability provision of the act. They will then trace out the cause of death or disability and calculate these against some central group or against the general population. Thereby they hope to see whether there is a correlation between the two groups, or whether there is indicated some trend on deaths or disabilities among those who have had asbestos exposure, which would indicate possible adverse effects due to this exposure.

They would like to include with this listing people who have formerly worked for us. They would like to have names, social security numbers, birth dates and period of employment with us.

They state no plant, company or individual data would be released from this study, it would all be entirely confidential.

What is your feeling on release of this information? Should we furnish it to them?

EDLovick/jbg

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