

REDACTED

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH WORKING GROUP

MURRAY HILL, NEW JERSEY

JANUARY 13, 1977

IN ATTENDANCE:

G. P. Bisgeier, M.D. - New Jersey Bell - Medical
J. M. Degen (Secretary) - AT&T - Customer Facilities
K. E. DeGennaro - WEC. - Environmental Engineering and Control
J. P. Dunn, M.D. - AT&T - Medical
M. J. Hanley, M.D. - Bell Labs - Medical
B. M. May (Co-chairman) - AT&T - Customer Facilities
J. F. McCahan, M.D. - AT&T Long Lines - Medical
R. W. Stone, M.D. (Co-chairman) - AT&T - Medical
G. M. Wilkening - Bell Labs - Environmental Health

MEMBERS ABSENT

G. R. Crimp

GUESTS

W. J. Schreiber - BTL
F. X. Worden - WEC.
G. H. Kitchen - BTL

ASBESTOS EXPOSURE

The group was brought up to date on the progress of establishing a policy on dealing with very small airborne concentrations of fibers that could be asbestos fibers. A meeting of the asbestos sub-group was held on January 3, 1977 to further clarify what our position should be. At the advice of legal counsel, it was decided to pursue the issue with the Federal OSHA by means of personal contact. The first such meeting will take place on February 2, 1977 with the OSHA Industry Liason Office.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

ATT-301

LLA 000012

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Issues to be discussed are focused on the subject of very small exposures, in the order of 0.01 and 0.02 fibers per cubic centimeter and the concept that expensive transmission electron microscopy techniques are necessary to determine if fiber counts of this low order are actually asbestos. The method of analysis currently recognized by the government, utilizing phase contrast microscopy at 430X, cannot make this determination.

To further add to the timeliness of this course of action, Illinois Bell has received a citation for exposures of this magnitude at their headquarters building in Chicago. Specific issues cited were 1) failure to do initial monitoring 2) failure to post warning signs and 3) failure to provide medical examinations. All three cited violations were referenced to the mechanical equipment rooms and the loading dock area where fireproofing material that contains asbestos is exposed. A notice of contest has been filed on this citation.

WORK PRACTICES FOR MECHANICS

A first draft of a work practice for motor vehicle mechanics who have occasion to remove brake drums for inspection and service purposes was discussed. This work practice covers the health aspects of the job including a medical surveillance program. A final draft of this new practice will be presented at the next meeting.

LLA 000013

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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH WORKING GROUP

BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY

FEBRUARY 11, 1977

IN ATTENDANCE:

G. P. Bisgeier, M.D. - New Jersey Bell - Medical
J. M. Degen (Secretary) - AT&T - Customer Facilities
K. E. DeGennaro - WECO. - Environmental Engineering and Control
J. P. Dunn, M.D. - AT&T - Medical
B. M. May (Co-chairman) - AT&T - Customer Facilities
J. F. McCahan, M.D. - AT&T Long Lines - Medical
R. W. Stone, M.D. (Co-chairman) - AT&T - Medical
G. M. Wilkening - Bell Labs - Environmental Health

MEMBERS ABSENT

G. R. Crimp
M. J. Hanley, M.D.

GUESTS

M. R. Del Grande
R. C. Allen

LLA 000014

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ASBESTOS EXPOSURE

(As reported in the minutes of the July 15, 1976 meeting, an inquiry was addressed to Dr. Morton Corn regarding the applicability of the current asbestos standard, 1910.1001 to the extremely low levels that can be measured in many buildings, both Bell System and all other employers. A reply from Dr. Corn has now been received (attachment) in which he explains "current OSHA policy." Although this letter gives a favorable decision on the question of medical surveillance, its long-term value is questionable due to the resignation of Dr. Corn.

(It was decided to pursue the issue of initial monitoring further with the Department of Labor. The asbestos sub-group will develop a scheme of statistically sampling buildings rather than make a wholesale commitment to a one hundred per cent sample. A contact will also be made with the Asbestos Institute for advice and assistance.

LLA 000015