

FILE NAME: General Electric (GE)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter to Mr. Cameron from S.E. Whiting, Ass't Chief Engineer, RE Status of Abrasive Cleaning Research



Mr. Winslow

Is this too impudent?

S. E. W.

September 9, 1932

Mr. W. H. Cameron
Managing Director, N.S.C.
20 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, Ill.

Re: Status of Abrasive Cleaning Research

My dear Mr. Cameron:

Even disregarding entirely any questions of courtesy, I think it would be a very practically interesting thing for you to do if you would advise the members of the above Committee (or at least a few of them) just what has happened to or is about to happen to the report on the hazards of sand blasting which the N.S.C. Committee finished some months ago.

I know exactly what happened at the last of our Committee meetings at which both you and Mr. Berquist were present and the representatives of abrasive sand manufacturers protested against the conclusions drawn by the Research Committee. The principal objection raised was to the statement of experimental evidence that the dust concentration was found to be lower with the use of a metallic abrasive than it was with a sand abrasive.

I have the further opinion, which may be erroneous, that the sand manufacturers have brought in to support their side of the argument some of your worthy Safety Council members who are operating abrasive cleaning apparatus and these interests naturally do not wish to have any over emphasis placed upon the silica dust hazard.

I am ready to admit to you or anyone else that there is always some unconscious tendency upon the part of any expert or research specialist to over emphasize the importance of the subject matter they are investigating or discussing. However, we all have this tendency whatever our line of business may be; it is an inevitable human trait.



W.H.C.

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Nevertheless, the question still remains as to why I am kept in entire ignorance as to what is going to happen to this particular piece of research and when it is likely to happen. For the life of me, I see no reason why you should not give me the entire low-down on it.

Hopefully, yours,

SEW:MH

S. E. Whiting
Asst. Chief Engineer

P.S. I shall see you at Washington.

S.E.W.