

SHELL OIL COMPANY

REFERENCE

01-ASBEST-054

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

SH-1379

DATE JULY 24, 1973

TO SEWAREN PLANT - MANAGER
 WILLBRIDGE - NORTHWESTERN AREA
 PLANTS MANAGER
 FALL RIVER PLANT - PLANT MANAGER
 HONOLULU PLANT - PLANT MANAGER
 RICHMOND PLANT - PLANT MANAGER
 JACKSONVILLE PLANT - PLANT
 SUPERINTENDENT
 SOUTH PORTLAND PLANT - PLANT
 SUPERINTENDENT

FROM MANAGER - PLANT AND
 ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
 MARKETING ENGINEERING

~~RECEIVED~~ STANDARD - OSHA
 OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH

JUL 25 1973

BWS

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The standard for exposure to asbestos dust was published in the Federal Register on June 7, 1972. The limits prescribed by the standard are as follows:

1. The 8-hour time-weighted average airborne concentration of asbestos fibers to which any employee may be exposed shall not exceed 5 fibers, longer than 5 micrometers, per cubic centimeter of air, as determined by the method prescribed by the standard.
2. No employee shall be exposed at any time to airborne concentrations of asbestos fibers in excess of 10 fibers, longer than 5 micrometers, per cubic centimeter of air, as determined by the method prescribed by the standard.

Effective July 1, 1976, the 8-hour time-weighted average of asbestos fibers to which any employee may be exposed shall not exceed 2 fibers, longer than 5 micrometers, per cubic centimeter of air, as determined by the method prescribed by the standard.

Each of your plants, or a satellite, has residual products requiring insulation. Asbestos is commonly used for insulation, thus creating a possible asbestos dust exposure.

We recommend that you complete an inventory of potential asbestos exposure as outlined below:

1. Identify those facilities and areas where asbestos is used.
2. Identify those people who may have a primary exposure to asbestos (insulators, maintenance men, etc.)
3. Identify those areas where asbestos "drift" may occur during demolition, removal, construction or other handling of the material.

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4. Estimate frequency of use or contact with asbestos.
5. Characterize the job or work requirement in the handling of asbestos.
6. This information should also be compiled where contractor personnel handle asbestos. The environmental sampling requirements of the regulation do not distinguish the source of the fiber.

At most plants, work involving asbestos is usually handled by a contractor. However, there are times when insulation is removed by Shell personnel which could lead to dust exposure. During such operations, recommendations are made below. Further, where such work involving asbestos is performed by a contractor, you should ensure that such work by the contractor is conducted in accordance with the health standards.

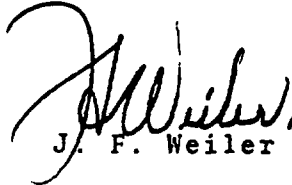
In work involving asbestos, we recommend the following:

1. Any employee working in any operation in which asbestos materials are involved should wear an "air purifying respirator" approved by the Bureau of Mines or the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.
2. Insofar as practicable, asbestos materials should be handled in a wet state to minimize the generation of dust.
3. Local ventilation systems currently in use on hand or power-operated tools used to machine asbestos materials should be checked to insure that (1) visible dusts are being effectively removed from the work area and (2) filters are being used to prevent the discharge of dusts into the environment.
4. All external surfaces in work areas where asbestos materials are handled should be maintained free of dust from the materials. Work areas should be vacuumed or "wet cleaned" rather than swept.
5. All asbestos waste materials should be disposed of in closed impermeable containers. The containers should be identified as containing asbestos materials.

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Should you require a sampling survey on this subject, please contact this office. We will either (1) obtain the services of one of our regional industrial hygienists, if a spot check is requested, or (2) supply a list of recommended equipment and supplies, if more continuous sampling is required.


J. F. Weiler

CWK:djc

cc - Occupational Safety & Health Manager
Marketing Distribution
Plant Services Manager

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