more from Mr. Shellenberger and Ms. Hines about what the companies knew. What they actually knew about what the hazards were of human exposure to asbestos.

And the evidence will show that they knew, they knew it was harmful and they didn't warn.

Now I want to talk very briefly to you about asbestos.

It is a fibrous material. It is mined from the earth. Because it has certain qualities, it is incorporated into certain types of products such as pipecovering and block and cement which you will hear about in Mr. Vandergucht's case, and it is also incorporated into friction products that are used on cars, in vehicles, in brakes, brake pads, and clutches.

There are different types. There is a type known as serpentine which is chrysotile. It is white and sometimes curly.

And amosite, which is brownish in color, a brown tint. It doesn't actually look brown. And then there is another amphibole known as tremolite which is

a contaminant of chrysotile.

When these materials are mined from the earth, the chrysotile has certain gang materials that go along with it that are part of the contamination, but it is also a fibrous form of asbestos known as tremolite.

There is also another one known as crocidolite.

There are several things that asbestos fibers have in common. They can all cause cancer. All of the commercial types that I talked to you about, chrysotile with its contaminant tremolite, amosite, crocidolite, all of them can cause mesothelioma. They are all fibrogenic.

They can all cause fibrosis, scarring of the lungs or asbestosis which is a disease that affects not the lining or outside of the lung in the pleura, but the inner portion of the lung, the lung parenchyma itself, the meat of the lung where the respiration takes place.

There are also other changes that can occur

in the lung on the lining or down in the diaphragm, and they are known as pleural plaques.

Fibers. All of the asbestos are fibers. It means their length is at least three times their width. The fibers are in various sizes.

They can be two microns to one micron, 15 microns, and you will hear from the doctors about what a micron is and how small it is. It is invisible to the naked eye.

They are microscopic in size.

They can be aerosolized. Because of their aerodynamic qualities, they can float in the air.

When it is brushed up, when the pipecovering is cut, when it is sawed, when the brake materials are manipulated, they can release asbestos-containing dusts which can get into the passage of the airways, cause havoc of the lung and cause undeniably mesothelioma in the pleura and the abdominal cavity.

The next thing I want to talk to you about are some medical concepts that you will hear about from the doctors. It relates to asbestos-related

disease.

The ones we are going to be concerned about, mesothelioma, and the other disease it can cause is asbestosis.

All of these are dose -- asbestos fibers can cause other diseases as well, but we are going to be focusing on mesothelioma. They are dose response related.

The more asbestos exposure you have, the more likely you are to get a disease, but the very crucial and important thing that you will hear about mesothelioma is there is no safe level of exposure. There is no threshold below which it will occur -- will not occur.

Small amounts of occupational asbestos exposure can cause peritoneal and pleural mesothelioma.

It is host responsive. Different people react different ways. It does not have the same effect on everybody.

Some people can be exposed to the same