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MR. HARVEY

R. T. VANDERBILT COMPANY, INC.
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June 11, 1975

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Dr. Jon R. May
Environmental Toxicologist
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
12420 Park Lawn
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Dear Jon:

We have talked at length about effect of John Dement's testimony at the Borg-Warner OSHRC Hearing in Mansfield, Ohio, and I am sure you appreciate our concern that the data he presented could be used in a manner detrimental to the interests of the Vanderbilt Company.

As far as we can gather from the transcript of the hearing John provided data on two of the ten samples of ore collected by Dunn Geoscience Corporation from our No. 3 mine in the Gouverneur district.

As we stipulated in our discussions last year about attempts to correlate Kleinfeld's epidemiological findings with the composition of the dust to which the subjects of his study were exposed, the ore from the No. 3 mine is used only for the production of our fibrous varieties of talc - products that we acknowledge to contain asbestos material and which we label with the required OSHA Asbestos Warning Label.

The ore from the No. 3 mine is never used to make our NYTAL line of products - those talcs which we certify as not containing asbestos, yet the inference was made at the hearing, because of a lack of identification of source, that NYTAL 200 was produced from these ores. NYTAL 200 was the product identified as being in use at the time of the alleged asbestos standard violation at the Borg-Warner plant.

In order to better document the facts of this situation we would like you to find out from John Dement the identification numbers of the samples he referred to at the hearing. We feel that you and John will want to join us in rectifying any misrepresentation of the facts presented at the Borg-Warner Hearing.

We think it is essential that a spirit of mutual cooperation be established and maintained between the Vanderbilt Company and the NIOSH group that plans to visit our mines if we expect to conduct a meaningful study of the hazards involved in exposure to the mineral products of our mines in Gouverneur, New York.

May we have an early reply to this request.

Sincerely,

R. T. VANDERBILT COMPANY, INC.

Allan M. Harvey
Allan M. Harvey, Manager
Technical Development

AMH:slb

The recommendations for use of our materials are based upon tests believed to be reliable. However, we do not guarantee the results to be obtained.

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