File - Asbestos (OSHA)

THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY

MIDLAND, MICHIGAN 48674

September 8, 1986

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

DOW-709

B. A. Weaver
2020 Willard H. Dow Center

cc: J. A. Gray, 2030
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ASBESTOS

On August 28, we held a meeting with industrial hygiene representatives of Eastern, Texas, Louisiana, and Michigan Divisions; the Dow U.S.A. industrial hygiene laboratory; and U.S.A. Legal. Discussions revolved around the new OSHA asbestos standards for general industry and construction. There is quite a bit of confusion in and out of OSHA on these. One thing is clear, if our exposures are greater than 0.2 fibers per cc it is going to be costly. During demolition, where exposures are very difficult to keep below that level, the cost is significant. In some intances, demolition calls for enclosures and decontamination areas. Demolition appears to include maintenance when done on structures such as building with sprayed-on asbestos.

I believe our discussions have given the various Divisions a direction that will help them begin to develop their compliance plans. We will continue to watch this issue and, hopefully, OSHA will clear up some of the confusion.

Dick Olson

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