

LAW OFFICES OF
PAUL, HASTINGS, JANOFSKY & WALKER

A PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS

SIXTH FLOOR

1050 THOMAS JEFFERSON STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20007

TELEPHONE (202) 333-8500

CABLE ADDRESS: PAULHAST WSH

TWX: 710-622-8062

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LOS ANGELES OFFICE
TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR
888 SOUTH FLOWER STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90071
TELEPHONE (213) 488-4000

ORANGE COUNTY OFFICE
SEVENTEENTH FLOOR
685 TOWN CENTER DRIVE
COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA 92626
TELEPHONE (714) 841-1100

WEST LOS ANGELES OFFICE
FIFTH FLOOR
1290 OCEAN AVENUE
SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA 90401
TELEPHONE (213) 451-2438

OF COUNSEL
LEE S. PAUL
ROBERT P. HASTINGS
CHARLES H. WALKER

ATLANTA OFFICE
ELEVENTH FLOOR
230 PEACHTREE STREET, N. W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
TELEPHONE (404) 588-8900

CONNECTICUT OFFICE
SECOND FLOOR
THREE LANDMARK SQUARE
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06901
TELEPHONE (203) 357-0100

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

OUR FILE NO

Jervis S. Finney, Esquire
Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver
1600 Maryland National Bank Building
10 Light Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Jervis:

Enclosed are various documents to assist you in matters concerning the development of a non-asbestos insulation product by GAF.

In 1969, GAF began developing, and later perfected a Calsilite product that did not contain asbestos, partly at the suggestion of government agencies and departments. In the asbestos-free Calsilite, sulphite pulp was substituted for asbestos. The resulting product met all criteria of federal, military and industrial standards, except for weight loss during heat soaking.

In 1970 and 1971, William Schwingen and Richard Henry attempted to obtain Navy approval of GAF's non-asbestos Calsilite for use in and on Navy projects and facilities. GAF demonstrated the product's safety and suitability and had an independent laboratory perform tests for the Navy's benefit. However, the Navy, through the Naval Experimental Station in Annapolis, refused to adjust the weight-loss-during-heat-soaking criterion, and in effect rejected non-asbestos Calsilite. At the same time, the Coast Guard extended the approval of GAF's asbestos containing Calsilite for an additional five years. Thus, the Navy in effect required the use of asbestos in pipe covering and lagging as late as 1976.

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Jervis S. Finney, Esq.
June 8, 1984
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Also enclosed is correspondence dated May 5, 1969 from the Naval Engineering Center in Philadelphia to GAF, requesting GAF to assist the Navy in developing non-asbestos products. It is clear from this correspondence that the first time the Navy ever gave any consideration to the removal of asbestos from insulation used in its ships was in 1969 -- long after the Selikoff studies (as well as substantial other evidence) was well-known.

Please let us know if we could provide anything else from our documents, limited though they may be.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Zevnik
for PAUL, HASTINGS, JANOFSKY & WALKER

Enclosures

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