FILE NAME: Asten Hill (AH)

DATE: 1974 Dec 2

DOC#: AH046

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo

Plaintiff Exhibit

December 2, 1974

MEMORANDUM

ATTN: W. TURNER

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION BY OSHA REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, was the follow-up inspection by representatives of the South Carolina Department of Labor in order to test the plant's atmosphere for Asbestos Dust. Following are the writers observations of the visit:

During the follow-up inspection, the undersigned ran three samples simultaneously with three samples performed by the Department of Labor. Two of the samples were on Warper #1 and one sample on Bobbin Winder #2, both of which are under citation presently. These samples will be sent to Mr. Seneca Foote and the results compared to those of OSHA. These results should be of particular interest due to the disparity found previously between OSHA's results and those of Mr. Seneca Foote, Industrial Hygienist for American Mutual Insurance Company.

One of the inspectors noted that our plastic face masks do not make a good airtight fit on the faces of black people because of their wide broad nose. He commented that if the mask allows air to leak in around the edges, no protection is afforded.

The OSHA Inspectors also tested our new yarn oven operation and were dismayed to find that the Asbestos Yarn was not being wet out before processing. They commented on the apparent excess of Asbestos Dust on the creel and on the floor and were pessimistic that the area would meet minimum requirements. The oven was not in operation the day of the visit but steps should be taken to insure compliance in this area. The most obvious way would be to soak the yarn before processing it but what effect this would have on the coating and curing operation would have to be tested.

The inspectors noted a smell of formaldehyde around the oven area and mentioned that there are limits as to how many parts per million allowed in the air. Mr. Holmstrom mentioned that this area is still under construction and hoods and more fans were on order to properly ventilate the area.

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The inspectors commented that the housekeeping, both general and especially those areas where Asbestos was being processed, except the yarn oven area, was much better than in their previous visit.

After the mill inspection, a meeting was held between the Department of Labor Representatives and Asten-Hill Representatives. In the meeting, OSHA advised us that we were being cited for excessive noise level. We were also advised that we could file for additional time to bring our noise within acceptable limits. Following is a list of their readings. Any level over 90 dB is in citation.

AREA	NOISE LEVEL (dB)	
Loom 26	96	(Loom on)
" " 34-A	95	(Loom off)
" " 34-B	97	(Loom on)
" " 40-B	97-100	" "
" " 40-D	102	" "
" " 40-E	91-95	" "
" " 43	95-98	" "
" " 46-B	94-96	(Loom off)
" " 46-C	96	(Loom on)
" " 50	97-98	" "
" " 50-B	94-95	(Loom off)
" " 54-A	93	" "
" " 54-B	93-95	" "
" " 54-C	95	(Loom on)
" " 58-A	93-96	" "
" " 58-C	95-97	" "
" " 58-C	93-94	(Loom off)
" " 58-D	92	(Loom on)
" " 68	97	" "
" " 68	95	(Loom off)
" " 68-B	92-94	" "
Aisle Between Loom 26 and Loom 40	96	
Warping Area	85-88	
Filling Winder		
#1	89	
#2	92-95	
Twisting Area	87-91	

Test results for Asbestos Fibers in the air should be available in approximately three (3) weeks.

Roy Fisher

Roy Fisher

RF:cc

cc: J. P. Nicholaou

G. Holmstrom