File

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MR. DENNIS BALYA
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LABS
ALCOA TECHNICAL CENTER

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cc: T. B. Bonney, Pittsburgh 6AB
W. A. Keith, Pittsburgh 3WPH
Carl L. Troutman, Pittsburgh 2AB

RE: COMPOSITION OF HEADER MATERIAL - LEBANON WORKS

Dennis, Lebanon's new continuous casters will be employing the enclosed material for headers. Employees may likely be exposed to some dust, etc. when "tips" from this material are manufactured. The supplier of the enclosed material is from overseas and to date is not willing to divulge the chemical components contained in this refractory material to Alcoa.

Because of employee health implications and the desire to design and install the appropriate dust collection system, there is a need to analyze and determine the chemical components of this board. Based upon analogous materials, we suspect it may contain Al_2O_3, SiO iron oxide, NaO, CAO, and other type inorganics. (This is pure speculation, however.) Can you please analyze this material and identify its components for us. Of particular concern would be to determine if crystalline silica (quartz, cristobalite, tridymite, etc.) and/or asbestos are present and at what levels.

Bill Truckner in Ingot Casting at ATC would like a portion of the enclosed sample for his own evaluations. Can you please make the necessary arrangements to insure that he gets enough of this sample to meet his needs.

Thank you for your assistance in this above project. If I can be of additional input or assistance, please advise.

ROBERT M. JAMES

RMJ:lmn

Enc.